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Volume 71, Issue 47 · www.wilcoxnewspapers.com

Thursday, May 21, 2026

Trek For Vets makes stop in Otsego during 500-mile Michigan journey

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

A statewide journey aimed at raising awareness for veteran mental health and isolation made a stop in Otsego over the weekend.

Trek For Vets, a 500-mile, 25-day journey across Michigan, stopped at the Otsego Fire Department on Saturday, May 16, where community members gathered to welcome participants and learn more about the mission behind the event.

According to the Otsego VFW Post 3030 Facebook page, the trek focuses on "raising awareness for veteran isolation, mental health struggles, and the importance of connection and community for those who served our country."

The post also stated that the organization's mission is to help veterans build a "tribe" of support and remind them "they are never alone."

Following the Otsego stop, Otsego VFW Post 3030 thanked Marine veteran Lawrence Miller of Trek For Vets for visiting the community during what it described as an "incredible 500 mile journey across Michigan."

"We appreciate you taking the time to visit with our community, share your mission, and help educate others about the importance of supporting veterans and bringing awareness to veteran mental health and isolation," the post said. "Your dedication to making sure no veteran feels alone is truly inspiring."

Trek For Vets, a 500-mile, 25-day journey across Michigan, made a stop at the Otsego Fire Department on Saturday, May 16. (Photo provided)

Marine Veteran Lawrence Miller, center, is seen during his Otsego stop. (Photo provided)

The trek began May 1 and will conclude May 25 at the Royal Oak Memorial Day Parade.

According to the Trek For Vets website, the event spans the entire state of Michigan and covers approximately 20 miles per day while traveling "via air, land, and sea" as a tribute to the United States Marine Corps reconnaissance community.

The route includes stops stretching from St. Ignace and Mackinac Island to Traverse City, Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, Lansing and several other Michigan communities before concluding in Royal Oak.

The Trek For Vets website states that organizers are committed to creating "trusted communication channels within the tactical community" while helping veterans move "from isolation to connection."

"These treks aren't just about the miles traveled," organizers said on the Trek For Vets website. "They're about the conversations had, the laughter shared, and the bonds built in places far from the noise of daily life.

"The Trek is not just about physical fitness—it's mental resilience, emotional support and the power of belonging."

According to the Trek For Vets website, organizers are also working to raise support through the symbolic sale of 500 cases of coffee — one for each mile of the journey.

Additional information about Trek For Vets can be found at trekforvets.com.

Trek for Vets set up in the parking lot across from the Otsego Fire Department. (Photo provided)

Festival Fridays coming to Plainwell on June 12

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

Festival Fridays is coming to downtown Plainwell next month.

The community pop-up festival, hosted by Kalamazoo Food Truck Rally, is scheduled for Friday, June 12, from 5 to 8:30 p.m. at Hicks Park and surrounding downtown areas along Bridge Street. Admission is free.

According to information shared by organizers and the City of Plainwell, the event will feature food trucks, vendor booths, live music, games and activities, as well as what organizers described as "downtown fun & community vibes."

A car show also is planned as part of the evening festivities. In a social media post announcing the event, organizers stated the goal is to "transform Bridge Street into a showcase of rare and iconic vehicles."

Festival Fridays is a traveling series that aims to bring food trucks, vendors and community activities to different Southwest Michigan communities throughout the summer.

"Festival Fridays was created to activate and celebrate the unique downtown areas of Southwest Michigan," organizers said in information posted online. "By bringing people together, Festival Fridays help to support small businesses, highlight local entrepreneurs and creators, increase foot traffic for downtown shops and restaurants and build stronger, more connected communities."

Organizers also described the events as a way of "transforming downtowns into vibrant gathering spaces where neighbors connect, families explore, and local businesses shine."

The June 12 event in Plainwell follows the first Festival Fridays event, which took place May 8 in downtown Kalamazoo.

Organizers currently are seeking additional vendors, farmers, artisans and small businesses for the Plainwell event. Vendor applications are available online through Kalamazoo Food Truck Rally.

Additional information and updates about Festival Fridays can be found through the Kalamazoo Food Truck Rally social media pages and at foodtruckrallykz.com.

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Bruwer named principal of ESA Tech Center

Allegan Area Educational Service Agency is pleased to announce Kim Bruwer as the new principal of the Allegan Area ESA Tech Center.

Bruwer brings more than 20 years of experience in education to this role. In this position, she will oversee programming, student support, staff leadership, and community partnerships at the Tech Center.

"We are excited for Kim to step into the principal role at the Tech Center. Her positivity, enthusiasm, and passion for student success are felt by all who have the chance to work with her," said Bill Brown, superintendent of Allegan Area Educational Service Agency. "She has served as the assistant principal for the last year and demonstrated the skills and leadership qualities that will help both staff and students thrive. We look forward to seeing her continue to build strong relationships, inspire innovation, and lead the Tech Center into an exciting new chapter."

Prior to joining the Tech Center, Bruwer served in a variety of roles at Kalamazoo Central High School, including teacher, reading specialist, mentor and School Improvement Chairperson. During her time at Kalamazoo Central, she received the Most Influential Educator Award and the You Make a Difference Award for her dedication to student growth and success.

"I'm honored to be the principal of the Allegan Area ESA Tech Center and support staff and students as they learn hands-on skills that will prepare them for their future careers and educational opportunities," said Bruwer. "What excites me most about this opportunity is being able to continue to work alongside students, staff, and the community to create an inclusive, supportive, and forward-thinking learning environment. I'm energized by the chance to grow and develop together, supporting innovative programs, empowering educators, and ensuring every student feels valued, challenged, and prepared for their future."

The Allegan Area ESA Tech Center provides hands-on career and technical education opportunities for students across Allegan County, helping prepare learners for success in college, careers, and beyond.

Kim Bruwer

One dies, one airlifted in Overisel crash

By John Raffel
Correspondent

ALLEGAN — Allegan County Central Dispatch received a 911 call in reference to a two vehicle accident at the intersection of 146th Avenue and 36th Street in the Township of Overisel at around 5:45 p.m.

They reported the accident involved a gray pickup truck and a black SUV. They also relayed to first responders that one of the occupants of the vehicle had possibly been ejected. First responders arrived on scene and attempted life saving measures for the female driver that had been ejected but she succumbed to her injuries and was pronounced deceased on scene.

The preliminary investigation shows that the female driver of the black SUV was traveling north on 36th street when she failed to stop at the stop sign at that intersection. The black SUV pulled in front of the gray pickup truck that had the right of way that was traveling west bound on 146th Ave. The female driver of the gray pickup suffered serious injuries in the crash and was airlifted from the scene by AeroMed. The driver of the black SUV was ejected and succumbed to her injuries. The female drivers of both vehicles were the only occupants in their vehicles at the time of the crash.

The Allegan County accident reconstruction team was on the scene conducting the investigation and the intersection of 146th Ave and 36th St was shut down for awhile.

The Allegan County Sheriff's Office was assisted on scene by Overisel Fire Department, Salem Fire Department, MSP, Holland AMR, Medical Examiner's Office, AeroMed and the Allegan County Accident Reconstruction Team.

Van crashes into road workers near Wayland

US-131 near Wayland reopened last week after a van crash injured road workers and temporarily closed northbound lanes near 140th Avenue.

The crash happened around 10 a.m. on May 13, 2026, on northbound US-131 at 140th Avenue. According to MDOT spokesperson John Richard, a driver veered from the left lane onto the shoulder where an MDOT crew was working. Workers reportedly jumped over the guardrail to avoid the oncoming vehicle.

The workers sustained minor injuries from jumping out of the vehicle's path. Richard said the workers were fortunate they were not struck directly. At least two MDOT vehicles were also involved in the crash.

Michigan State Police confirmed minor injuries from the crash but did not specify whether the van driver was among those injured.

US-131 was closed from approximately 10 a.m. to noon before reopening to traffic. Construction work later resumed.

Michigan Law and Work Zone Crashes

Michigan law imposes enhanced penalties when a qualifying moving violation causes injury or death in a work zone.

Under MCL 257.601b, a driver who commits a moving violation carrying at least three points and causes injury to another person in a work zone can face misdemeanor penalties, including up to one year in jail and a fine of up to $1,000.

If the violation causes death, the offense can become a felony punishable by up to 15 years in prison and a fine of up to $7,500.

The law is commonly associated with "Andy's Law," Michigan's work-zone safety legislation designed to protect road workers and others in marked work zones.

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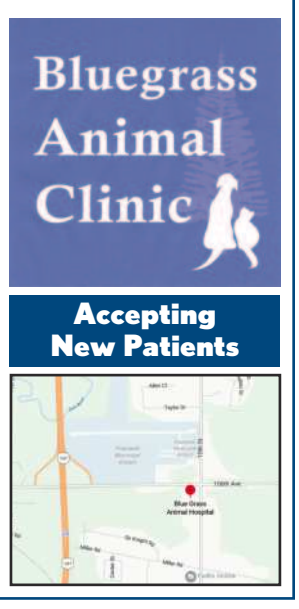

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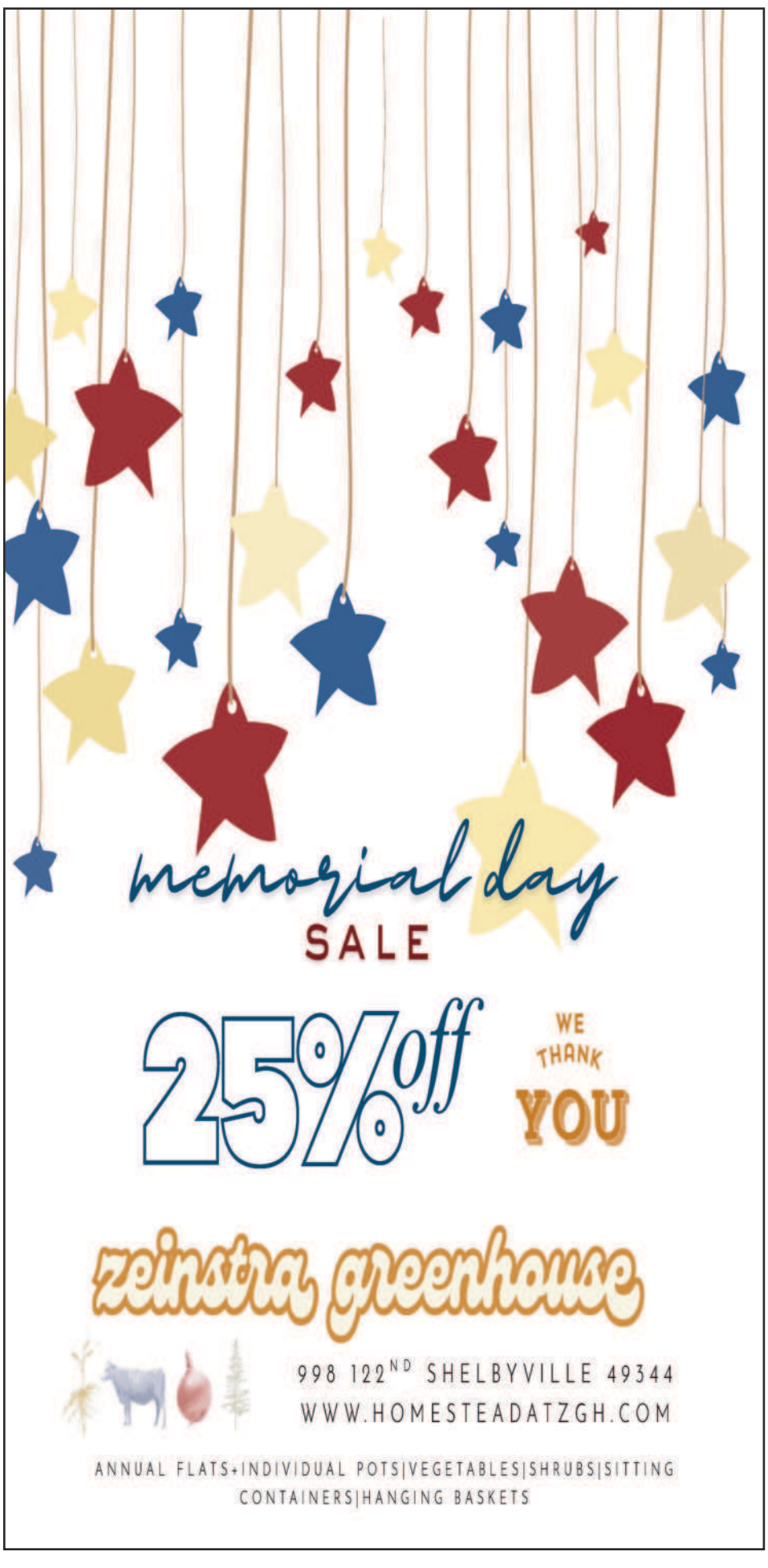

ALEgan Craft Beer Fest

Beer Fest, Golf Scramble highlight weekend activities

The weekend of May 16, 2026, offered fun and frolic to residents and visitors of all ages, and the weather could not have been better. In addition to the many yard and garage sales, there were games, food, friends and festivities galore. Outdoor enthusiasts could enjoy a round of golf, a ride through the woods on a horse, favorite or new beverages at the Beer Fest, learning how to do Plein Air art, games and fun on the Riverfront, or even a Mud Run. Inside, teens and adults could experience Book Bricks, country music, dancing and refreshments, or the Night of Hope fundraiser. Allegan had it all on one Saturday from morning to night!

Camp Kidwell's Annual Golf Scramble. For golfers, the Camp Kidwell Golf Scramble at Cheshire Hills Golf Course brought golf teams of all ages to try their skills at 18 holes while those who would rather not golf were to choose their favorite items in the Online Auction. Best score for the Women went to Cheryl Cook, Giada Carns, Becky Mills and Julie Andrus. On the Men's side, Team McCrossin snuck by the competition. The Club House filled with hungry competitors who made their last bids on auction items and filled their plates at the lunch bar before prizes were announced. Camp Director KJ Kelly took time to acknowledge the wonderful contributions of Herb Johnson who did so much for Camp and initiated the Golf Scramble, and gave thanks to the many contributors who enable youth to enjoy the experience of summer, weekend and winter camps.

Allegan County Pleasure Riders 52nd Benefit Ride. Silver Creek Campground and Equestrian Park filled with horse lovers and friends who rode the trails to raise funds for Wings of Hope and Wings Home. Over 125 riders took to the trails to bring an initial $7005 to each of the organizations with more donations arriving. Prizes were drawn for the riders and others who bought tickets for the silent auction. A special thank you went to Terry and Tammy Hillman of the Neighbors House Bar and Grill in Gobles who furnished the hot dogs, chili and sides for hungry equestrians.

Allegan Credit Union 10th Annual Block Party. Swinging back to Allegan, families and friends of Allegan Credit Union enjoyed the 10th Annual Block Party on the Allegan Riverfront. Those in attendance enjoyed bounce houses, raffles, games, free food, and other activities. All were offered at no cost as a thank you from Allegan Credit Union.

ALEgan Craft Beer Fest. Heading over to the Allegan County Fairgrounds from 2-8pm, adults gathered at ALEgan Beer Fest to sample beers from 18 craft breweries around Allegan County and beyond. The Allegan Jaycees and Tantrick Brewing & Stillhouse were joined by 200+ beer lovers and friends to enjoy food from the Allegan Band Booster and The Mobile Crave, music by Jack's Label Maker, and beverages for all pallets. For the designated drivers and those looking for a change in beverage, there was the Kittywampus Soda Brewing hawking Unique Soda for Unique People.

After Dark Country Night. The Grill House's Courtyard opened, and next door in The Silo, After Dark welcomed Western Night featuring the Bronk Brothers. Even before dark, the crowd began arriving and found pizza, snacks and beverages then took to the dance floor for partner dancing and Boot Scootin'. This was the second After Dark gathering and Executive Manager Samantha Christman-Ailes felt that they would consider hosting another sometime in the summer.

Camp Kidwell's Annual Golf Scramble

After Dark Country Night

Allegan County Pleasure Riders 52nd Benefit Ride

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Allegan County
SENIOR EXPO
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at First Baptist Church, 1290 32nd Street (M40), Allegan 49010

Register by June 17
to reserve your spot in the workshops and lunch
by visiting www.AlleganCounty.org/SeniorExpo
or if assistance is needed, call 269-673-333.

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Community Events

Community Calendar - Week of May 18, 2026

Event information can be sent to:
wilcoxnewspapers@gmail.com

EVENTS TO WATCH!
May 2026: Cereal Drive: Allegan County ingathering coordinated by Hungry for Christ
Sat., May 23, 2026, 11am-noon: Mushroom Walk at Silver Creek
Silver Creek Park Hamilton
Sat., May 23, 2026, 12-4pm: Camp Kidwell Open House & Pig Roast
Camp Kidwell 39000 1st Ave. Bloomingdale
Sat., May 23, 2026, 12-4pm: Camp Kidwell Open House & Pig Roast
Camp Kidwell 39000 1st Ave. Bloomingdale
Mon, May 25, 2026: Memorial Day Celebrations around the County

CURRENT EVENTS

Wed., May 20, 2026, 11am-3pm: House of the Rising Song Café
Good Shepherd Church 101 N. Walnut St. Allegan
Grab your instrument and join the jam or just come, listen and eszat lunch, relax, refresh, repeat.

Wed., May 20, 2026, 6:30pm: Pub Quiz
Tantrick Brewing Co. Hubbard St. Allegan
Teams up to 5 members can register beginning at 5:30pm then enjoy the competition. Library cards earn extra points.

Thurs., May 21, 2026, 10-11am: Spring Time Story
West Side Park 2152 Lakeshore Dr., Fennville
Children 7 and under and guardians are welcome to enjoy a story and a stroll. Dress for the outside weather. Information at the Outdoor Discovery Center (ODC).

Thurs., May 21, 2026: Library Fun
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
10:30am: Preschool Storytime. 3-5 year olds can enjoy stories and activities.
3:30pm: Friends of the Library Geranium Sale. Purchase Van Til's Greenhouse flowers for $5.50 and support library programs.

Thurs., May 21, 2026, 5-7pm: Third Thirsty Thursday
Join the Allegan Area Chamber of Commerce and Allegan Jaycees for a collaborative time. Bring business cards and network.

Fri., May 22, 2026, 6pm: Teen Tech Night
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
Grades 6-12 can register at 269 673-4625 to enjoy an evening of technology of all types.

Sat., May 23, 2026, 11am: Jumpstart Your Genealogy
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
Drop in and work with Megan Heyl on various aspects of finding and organizing family history.

Sat., May 23, 2026, 11am-noon: Mushroom Walk at Silver Creek
Silver Creek Park Hamilton
All ages can stroll the park while looking for mushrooms and other fungi and learn about their roles in the ecosystem. Information at the Outdoor Discovery Center (ODC).

Sat., May 23, 2026, 12-4pm: Camp Kidwell Open House & Pig Roast
Camp Kidwell 39000 1st Ave. Bloomingdale
Come tour the campus and enjoy the activities. All are welcome.

Mon., May 25, 2026, Noon: Memorial Day Community Picnic
Pullman Town Square 109th Ave. & 56th St. Pullman
Join the fun with a Flag raising at noon, then Free Picnic of pulled pork and the fixings, followed by the Memorial Day Parade and the Memorial Service at the Lee Township Cemetery.

Mon, May 25, 2026, Noonish: Memorial Day Luncheon
Immanual Lutheran Church 631 Grand St. Allegan
All are welcome to gather for lunch after the | Memorial Ceremony at Oakwood Cemetery.

Tues., May 26, 2026: Library Fun
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
10:30am: Lapsit Storytime. 0-2 year olds can enjoy stories and activities.
1pm: Friends of the Library Meeting. All are welcome to assist in planning activities for the library.

Tues., May 26, 2026, 11am-noon: Behavioral & Mental Health Roundtable
MACC & the ACCF invite all behavioral and mental health groups to join a virtual, collaborative event to share updates and ideas, discuss challenges and barriers, and explore opportunities for partnership and coordination. Register on the alleganfoundation.org/community-calendar.

Tues., May 26, 2026, 2-3pm: Food Security Roundtable
MACC & the ACCF invite all groups working to improve food security to join a virtual, collaborative event to share updates and ideas, discuss challenges and barriers, and explore opportunities for partnership and coordination. Register on the alleganfoundation.org/community-calendar.

Wed., May 27, 2026, 10am: Play Café
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
Caregivers can enjoy a cup of coffee while little ones have fun playing.

Wed., May 27, 2026, 10am-noon: Garlic Mustard Removal
Silver Creek Preserve, Hamilton
Ages 12 and up are welcome to come and assist in removing unwanted plants. Register at ODC Network.

Wed., May 27, 2026, 11am-3pm: House of the Rising Song Café
Good Shepherd Church 101 N. Walnut St. Allegan
Grab your instrument and join the jam or just come and listen and have lunch. Eat lunch, relax, refresh, repeat.

Thurs., May 28, 2026, 8am-2pm: Allegan Farmers Market
Cutler Parking Lot Allegan
Favorite and new vendors each week. Come and stock up.

Thurs., May 28, 2026, 10:30am: Preschool Storytime
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
Ages 3-5 can come for stories and activities.

Thurs., May 28, 2026, 11am-noon: Access to Medical Care Roundtable
MACC & the ACCF invite all organizations working to improve access to medical care to join a virtual, collaborative event to share updates and ideas, discuss challenges and barriers, and explore opportunities for partnership and coordination. Register on the alleganfoundation.org/community-calendar.

Thur., May 28, 2026, 2-3pm: Healthy Housing Roundtable
MACC & the ACCF invite all organizations working on safe and sustainable housing efforts to join a virtual, collaborative event to share updates and ideas, discuss challenges and barriers, and explore opportunities for partnership and coordination. Register on the alleganfoundation.org/community-calendar.

Fri., May 29, 2026, 6pm: Jazz in the Valley
Fenn Valley Winery 6130 122nd Ave. Fennville
The Fennville High School Jazz Band will host, and the Beechwood Grill will cater a wonderful dinner for the Fennville Performing Arts Department. Appetizers and jazz begin at 6pm with dinner at 6:30pm. There will be some silent auction items available. Tickets are $30 and can be purchased at any Fennville School office or contact Director Andres Garcia andy.garcia@fennville.org.

Fri., May 29, 2926, 7pm: Kitten's Album Release Party
The Eagles 2315 110 Chestnut St. Allegan
Catch the beat with Kitten's music

Sat., May 30, 2026: Springfield 5K
Modales Winery & Gold Coast Farms Fennville
Help raise funds for Fennville Public Schools scholarships and Cross Country Program.

Sat., May 30, 2026c, 10am-6pm: Eccentric Garden Birthday
Eccentric Garden 136 Brady St. Allegan
Help celebrate 3 years with the first 50 customers in line getting a goodie bag.

Sun., May 31, 2026, 8am-4pm: Allegan Antiques Market
Allegan County Fairground 150 Fair Dr. Allegan
One of Michigan's largest antique markets and rated as One of th Ten Best Shows in America. There are hundreds of dealers who deal rain or shine thanks to the indoor venues. Admission is $5 per person, children under 12 are free. Parking is free. Food is available.

Wed., June 3, 2026, 10am-noon: Clean Up M-89 Boat Launch
M-89 Bridge Boat Launch west of M-40N
Ages 12 & up should wear long sleeves, long pants, bring water. Trash bags and gloves provided. Register at allegan.admin@macd.org.

Wed., June 3, 2026, 11am-3pm: House of the Rising Song Café
Good Shepherd Church 101 N. Walnut St. Allegan
Grab your instrument and join the jam or just come and listen and have lunch. Eat lunch, relax, refresh, repeat.

ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES

ASSISTANCE

Addiction Support Group, Thursdays 7-8pm
1900 Lincoln Road, Allegan
Come as you are.

Adventist Community Service Center
218 S. Farmer St. Otsego Tues. 10am-4pm; Thurs. 1-5pm
Clothes for the family and household goods are available, layettes for newborns, clothing, diapers, toys, etc. for babies to 6 mo. For emergency needs, call 269 694-4775 or Marlene 269 217-8293. This is supported by the 7th-Day Adventist Church and an ACCF TAG Grant.

Allegan County Community Action - Assistance for daily living
23 Water Street, Allegan, MI 49010, www.communityactionallegan.org, (269) 673-5472
Food, weatherization, early childhood education.

Allegan Homeless Solutions - Helping eliminate barriers to housing.
108 Grant St., Plainwell MI 49080
www.alleganhomelesssolutions.org, Email: info@alleganhomelesssolutions.org

The Arc of Allegan County - Advocates for people with disabilities
219 Hubbard Street, Allegan 269 673-8841
Mission to advocate for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the community.

Baby Closet – Newborn Clothing and Supplies
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 101 N. Walnut Street Allegan
Call 269 673-2254 and leave a message.

Community Clothes Closet – Free Clothing and More
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 101 N. Walnut Street, Allegan (269) 673-2254
Open Thursdays & Fridays, 10am – 1pm A wide selection of clothing for all ages is available.

Grief Support Groups
Wings of Hope invites all to a welcoming and compassionate gathering. 1st Monday of the month – 6-7:30pm, Wings of Hope Office, 530 Linn St., Allegan; 2nd Tues. of each month – 12:30-2pm, United Methodist Church, 322 Maple St., Hopkins; 3rd Monday of each month – 3-4:30pm, Ransom District Library, 189 S. Sherwood Ave., Plainwell; 4th Tues., Grief Support Luncheon, 1pm, Salvino's 1290 M89, Plainwell.

Love, Inc.
Love in the Name of Christ 4621 135th Ave. Hamilton
For assistance with food, personal care items, baby needs, household items, clothing, appliances, furniture, bicycles, laundry, showers & Life Skills Wrap Around Care, call 269 751-2533. Visit www.loveincnwa.org., email: office@loveincnwa.org.

People Helping People of Pullman
Assistance by appt. 269 236-6295

Safe Harbor Children's Advocacy Center - Abuse Prevention and Healing
404 Sherman St., Allegan, MI 49010 www.safeharborcac.org, (269) 673-3791

St. Vincent de Paul-St. Margaret Conference - Food and More
St. Vincent de Paul 124A W. Allegan St. Otsego
Mon.: 1-3pm Tues. & Thurs: 10am to noon Wed.: 3-5pm
Food pantry and limited financial aid. Dtvincentdepaul9005@gmail.com
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Sylvia's Place - Safe from Domestic Violence
Crisis Line: 269 673-8700

United Church of Wayland - Free Clothing
1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month, 4 - 6pm
411 E Superior St. in Wayland

FOOD

Allegan Food Pantry
Church of God, 1313 Lincoln Rd., Allegan
Monday: 10 am–1pm; Tues.: 2–7pm; Fri. 1-4pm Curbside Service
Contact: Phone: 269 686-6369
Deliveries are made to homebound senior citizens.

Congregational Kitchen - Thursday Dinner Pickup
Congregational Church 325 Cutler Street Allegan
Call (269) 673-3139 after 3pm any Thursday and place an order.
Thursdays: Pick up 3 to 5:30 pm. Takeout dinners only during COVID-19

Food Truck - 3rd Friday of each month, 4:30 - 5:30pm
United Church of Wayland
411 E Superior St. in Wayland

The Hands of Grace Food Pantry
United Methodist Church, 409 Trowbridge St., Allegan 269 673-4236
Tuesday: 9-11:45 a.m.; Wednesday: 9-11:45 a.m. and 5-7 p.m.; Friday: 10-11:45 a.m.
Food Pantry serves FOOD to residents of Allegan 49010 w/valid ID with current address ONLY.

Hopkins United Methodist Church
322 Maple St. Hopkins
269 793-7340

Hungry for Christ
4565 135th Ave. Hamilton, 269 264-1307 x1000

Ladders of Hope USA - Food Assistance
717 East Main St, Fennville, MI 49408, www.laddersofhopemi.org., 269-686-6456

Martin Area Resource Center
1445 10th St, Martin (269) 672-5605
No appointment needed. Pick up by one person per household.

Martin United Methodist Church
969 E. Allegan St. Martin 269 672-7097

Mobile Food Pantry, 2nd Monday of the Month: Drive Thru Food Distribution
Casco United Methodist Church 880 66th ST, South Haven MI 49090
Pantry items a pre-packaged. Limit - one box per vehicle.

Project Hope
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616 681-4673 appt. only

The Vine Food Pantry / Love, INC
Christ Community Church
3370 113th Ave, Allegan, MI · (269) 673-2329

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www.alleganregent.com
269-673-2737

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Art Coast preview: Porch Party, Senior Walk and Long Memorial Day Lead-In

By Art Nicholas

In the rhythm of a small county in mid-May, this past week was something of a deep breath — the lull before graduation, Memorial Day, and the long stretch of summer events to follow. Most of the calendar's biggest names haven't yet rolled into town. But the week still offered a couple of the Art Coast's most beloved local traditions, and the season's bigger gatherings are already lining up just around the corner.

Art, Music and Horses on the Farm

The Red Horse Center hosted its annual Porch Party Fundraiser on Saturday, May 16, drawing hundreds of friends and neighbors — from down the road and from well beyond the county line — to its farm on 122nd Avenue in Fennville. The afternoon was built on the trio Red Horse does best: art, music, and horses. Held during Mental Health Awareness Month, the event anchors the spring fundraising drive supporting programs such as Horses Empowering Youth (H.E.Y.), Mental Heach and Wellness, Pride and Ally Community Wellness, and Herd Support, for the daily care of the herd.

The Porch Party was free and open to all. The horses set the tone. Families with young children pressed against the pasture fence to meet the herd, and quiet visits drew a steady stream of guests all afternoon.

The art held the lawn together. The Saugatuck Douglas Art Club's collaborative gallery show filled Juniper's Retreat House with work for sale, proceeds split between the artists and Red Horse. A hay-bale "art wagon" parked near the red barn became an open-air showroom for local painters, and beneath the trees a long, paint-splattered COLLABORATIVE ART table invited kids and adults to add color to a shared canvas.

Then came the music. It started at 3:30 pm with Mat Daly playing acoustic covers, followed by Hannah Laine, singing her original music, including creative "soul-oh looping." Later, Great Lakes Brass — the New Orleans-inspired band founded by Red Horse's own Fred Bueltmann — kicked off a "Fire Horse Second Line" across the lawn. Sousaphone, trombone, sax, and a bass drum rolled past handmade horse-puppet banners as the procession pulled guests up out of their lawn chairs and into the parade. It was the band's fourth year leading the celebration, and the moment captured what Red Horse reaches for: community-driven engagement, sharing joy and hope, through art, music, horses and the community that holds the work together.

Around it all, Farmhouse Deli served pork tacos, vegan tacos, and street corn salad, while Fenn Valley, Modales, Rusty Rocket, Noble Twist, Mitten Brewing, Saugatuck Brewing, Crane's Cider, and St. George Sodas poured at the bar. A live auction and raffle headlined a grand-prize group retreat at Juniper's Retreat House valued at $3,500.

"It is incredibly affirming to feel the community support that makes this event possible. We connect with our long-time volunteers, supporters, and sponsors while meeting hundreds of new friends. People breathe in what it feels like to be in our Peaceful Space for Powerful Work, abd have fun, all while contributing to making mental health and wellness services accessible and affordable for people in our community." (Ulla Frederiksen, Red Horse Center Co-founder and Psychologist.)

More on the organization and its ongoing Spring Support Drive is at redhorse.red.

A Walk to Remember in Fennville

Earlier in the week, the halls of Fennville Public Schools rang with applause and high-fives as the Class of 2026 made its annual Senior Walk through the district. A cornerstone of the Blackhawks' graduation lead-up, the tradition sends gowned and capped seniors strolling through the elementary, middle and high school buildings, slapping hands with younger students lining the hallways. For the youngest students, it's a first glimpse of graduation. For the seniors, it's a chance to circle back to the teachers and classrooms that shaped twelve years of their lives.

Around the County This Week

Beyond Fennville, the week's smaller offerings drew steady crowds. The Saugatuck Douglas District Library screened *The Hundred Foot Journey* on Tuesday evening, and cooking and wellness workshops popped up across the area as the lakeshore eased toward summer.

Caps in the Air

The week's biggest milestone arrives tonight. **Fennville High School's commencement** takes place **Thursday, May 21, at 7 p.m.** at George Bruder Memorial Field — Blackhawk Stadium. Parking fills quickly. **Fennville Alternative High School's graduation** follows one week later, **Thursday, May 28, at 7 p.m.**, in the High School Auditorium, honoring this year's class of diploma and GED graduates. Both ceremonies are open to the community.

Looking Ahead: A Much Busier Week on Deck

Where this week was modest, next week is anything but. Friday and Saturday, **May 22 and 23**, *Second City Returns to the SCA* brings the famed Chicago sketch-comedy troupe to the Saugatuck Center for the Arts. The **Saugatuck Farmers Market at the SCA** opens its season **Friday, May 22, 9 a.m.–2 p.m.**, running every Friday through the summer with fresh produce, prepared food and local artisans.

Memorial Day weekend then brings a full slate across the Art Coast:

Fennville Memorial Day Parade — Monday, May 25, 10 a.m. Lineup at Paradise Park by 9:45 a.m.; the procession continues down Main Street to the Fennville Cemetery for a service hosted by VFW Post 7911, with the FHS Marching Band and Scouts BSA Troop 45 participating.

Saugatuck Memorial Day Parade — Monday, May 25, 9 a.m., downtown Saugatuck, followed by a ceremony at Memorial Park.

Douglas Memorial Day Parade — Monday, May 25, 11 a.m., downtown Douglas.

Area wineries and gardens are already lining up live music for the long weekend.

The pace is about to change in earnest. Whether you're cheering a senior across the stage tonight, browsing the season's first farmers market or lining a parade route on Memorial Day, there's room for everyone — neighbors, returning visitors and first-timers alike. A good week ahead in the Art Coast.

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Chibueze Luke Amaezechi
Riley Thomas Anastasi
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Alassane Ba
Brooklyn Elizabeth Barrows
William Matthew Bartels
Leila Jeanne Bennica
Alyssa Charlotte Bernard
Trinity Rae Blanchard
Jacob Allen Blanton
Chloe Elizabeth Bohne
Blanka Elżbieta Bolińska
Tyler Ray Scott Boussom
Trinity Rayne Kaylene Brant
Caleb Mathew Braybrooks
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Adau Nhial Atem Chol
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Jayden Matthew Emmons
Brockman Michael Ernstes
Lyla Jane Eslick
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Josey Lynn Fein
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Luke William Filkins
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Hannah Michelle Freestone
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Andrew David Hampton
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Kaelyn Rae Hess
Paeton Elizabeth Hillman
Shea Julia Hodapp
Joseph Paolo Hoffman
Samson Ida
Mariana Antonia Jensen
Landon Earl Jepsen
Gabriella Belle Johnson
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McKenzie Marie Johnson
Mia Hope Scarlett Johnson
Imanpreet Kaur
Camryn M Keeler
Jackson Ray Kersten
Ava Rose Klann
Jacob Robert LaFollette
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Cohen Lancaster
Isaiah Lanphar
Ella Marie LaPenna
Nathanael Robert Launt
Hieu Le Nguyen Tri
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Ziye Liang
Sawyer Altenbernt Lilly
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Kaitlyn Rae Lutz
Avery Kay-Lee Lynch
Benjamin Thomas Lynes
Sean Scott MacRitchie
Mate Gyorgy Malatinszki
Aiden James Mallory
Daniel Thomas Mansheim
Lauren Kate Marlett
Gabriel Martinez Martinez
Maxwell Gordon Maschke
Phillip James Mathis
Samantha Lynn McDaniel
Kahlan Rogue McNeel
Isabella Rose McNett
Mackenzie Suzann Meert
Alivia Jorene Meninga
Zachariah Allan Meyers
Maddax Joseph Mickaels
McKenna Lynn Mitzel
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Matthew Jeremy Steven Moore
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PLAINWELL HIGH SCHOOL

On this Memorial Day

Editor's Note: I thought I would use my space to sometimes contributor, Jeffrey Brasie. As a Vietnam veteran, he offers a movie, book and TV show that honor best those that served.

MIKE'S MUSINGS

MIKE WILCOX
■ PUBLISHER ■

By: Jeffrey D. Brasie, M.A,

This coming Monday, May 25th Americans will reflect and honor Memorial Day. Our Canadian neighbors recognize their Memorial Day each July 1st.

According to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) there are just under 18 million veterans. VA statistics reveal the Gulf War, Afghanistan, and Iraq age group veterans are eclipsing the living Vietnam era veterans.

I have personally visited numerous military memorials, parades, and cemeteries to render a hand salute or placed my hand over my heart for those who have served and passed. The Vietnam Wall is the most difficult for me to visit. I know two of the 58,281 names engraved in the 246-foot nine-inch granite wall.

As we prepare for Memorial Day, I would like to share with you my thoughts which I tend to believe are the best motion picture, book, and television episode honoring those who served.

Motion Picture

For many, the movies, Born on the Fourth of July, The Hurt Locker, Blackhawk Down, Saving Private Ryan, Dirty Dozen, Flags of Our Fathers, and Forrest Gump come to mind.

I tend to believe the best motion picture is the 1946 Oscar award winning film, The Best Years of Our Lives.

The film features Fredic March, Dana Andrews, and Harold Russell as three post-World War II veterans returning to their Midwest hometown. March portrays an Army sergeant who has seen combat, Andrews an Army Air Corps flight captain, and Russell a Navy petty officer who lost both of his forearms.

March struggles with PSTD (then known as shell shock) when returning to his family he hasn't seen for years and his banking profession. Andrews returns to a philanderer wife and a third level job clerking at a local drug store. Finally, Russell has adjusted to his limb loss. Nevertheless, his mother has struggled to manage her son's challenge, while his next-door neighbor and girlfriend, Wilma, loves him deeply.

It is a terrific motion picture to view especially with a Russell and Wilma's wedding scene, a blossoming new love for Andrews, and March's family and lifestyle are reunited.

The movie is available through a multitude of online resources and through library lending services.

The Book

My Father, My Son is a biography of Chief of Naval Operations (CNO), Admiral Elmo ("Bud") Zumwalt, Jr. co-written with John Pekkanen. The book chronicles Zumwalt's personal life and military career.

As a young petty officer, at the Pentagon on the Secretary of the Navy's public affairs staff, I had the honor of periodically seeing and interacting with the Admiral.

Zumwalt, the Navy's highest-ranking officer, faced dozens upon dozens of challenges during his CNO tenure. These ranged from the Vietnam war front, racial tensions, an aging fleet, and constantly seeking administration and Congressional support. It is relevant to note that when he was selected as CNO he was chosen over other senior level flag officers. At age 49 he was the youngest CNO ever to be appointed.

The most poignant chapter in the book is when Zumwalt talks about his Vietnam tour of duty. During this period, his son, Elmo III was a Naval lieutenant manning a gun boat on the Mekong River Delta.

From the shoreline, American troops were facing severe casualties on the Delta.

Admiral Zumwalt made the decision to use the defoliant, agent orange, to push back each side of the river shoreline by hundreds of yards. This meant the enemy could no longer hide behind the shoreline foliage nor launch their weapons against the American forces.

Years later after leaving the Navy and graduating from law school, the junior Zumwalt learned that he contracted Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. He died in 1988.

It is believed that the Admiral's decision to use agent orange, to save numerous troop members, may have caused his son to have died at age 42. The Admiral's grandson, Elmo IV was born with a birth defect which hinders his ability to concentrate. Other Vietnam veterans' children have also shown birth defects.

Certain aspects of this book are a challenging read of the Admiral and his son facing the consequences of agent orange.

On using agent orange, the Admiral at the time was assured by the Pentagon that the defoliate was safe to use. He commented, "I asked the right questions, but got the wrong answers."

The book is available at lending libraries or can be ordered online.

The Television Show

Television featured numerous military related series such as NCIS, China Beach, Combat, Hogan's Heroes, McHale's Navy, JAG, Seal Team, and numerous other series dating back decades.

Perhaps the best was the 11-season run of M*A*S*H. The series was filled with a variety of notable characters, hilarious situations, as well as the Korean War's difficulties and dozens of ethical issues.

As a side note, the late Harry Morgan who portrayed Colonel Sherman Potter was from Muskegon, Michigan and Corporal Max Klinger (played by Jamie Farr) is a Toledo, Ohio native.

Probably the most memorable episode for me appeared in 1980 entitled, "Death Takes a Holiday." Truly one of the best episodes and major tearjerker.

The plot has the M*A*S*H 4077 medical unit celebrating Christmas in the camp's massive mess (dining) quarters.

As the holiday festivities carry on, a severely wounded soldier, shot by a sniper, arrives at the M*A*S*H unit. The holiday party continues with the soldier quickly carried into the surgical tent.

Hawkeye (Alan Alda) and B.J. Hunnicutt (Mike Ferrell) realized the combat soldier was most certainly going to die. Their goal was to keep him alive so his family would not see him pass on Christmas day. It was a scene filled with love, tense moments, and a from the heart mission.

Head nurse, Major Margaret Houlihan (Loretta Swit) pulled a photo from the soldier's pocket which showed his wife and children. Inscribed on the photo was "To the best husband and daddy in the world; come home soon."

Colonel Potter would slip into the nearby surgical tent wearing his makeshift Santa outfit. Father John Mulcahy (William Christopher) would pray and add words of wisdom. As the solider was heading toward death, one of the Father's classic remarks was, "Christmas should be thought of as a day of birth."

The wall clock ticked towards midnight and December 26th. The soldier becomes weaker by the hour. He passes before midnight. Hawkeye slips over to the nearby clock and moves it to 12:05 a.m.

Mission accomplished – the official record had the solider from Pennsylvania pass on December 26th.

Hand salute to you, my dear brothers and sisters who served and those who gave their lives in the name of democracy and freedom.

Jeffrey D. Brasie is a retired health care CEO. He frequently writes historic feature stories and op-eds for various Michigan newspapers, magazines, and social media sites. As a Vietnam-era veteran, he served in the U.S. Navy and U.S. Naval Reserve. He served on the public affairs staff of the Secretary of the Navy. He grew up near the tip of the mitt and resides in suburban Detroit.

Life as Performance Art

G CORWIN STOPPEL

Memorial Day Monday, May 25 this year, is nigh upon us. Don't mistake it for the Fourth of July, when our nation's 250th birthday will deservedly be feted later in 2026, or Veterans Day Nov. 11 each year.

Memorial Day began after, maybe even during, the Civil War. Each spring, families in upstate New York went to their local cemeteries to clean up the graves and granite markers of the soldiers who had died during the 4-year conflict.

If there was an "orphan grave" where there was no known family to tend to it, others filled in, often leaving flowers. While there, some tended to nearby civilian graves as well.

These gestures, with planting flags, are our way of saying, "We have not forgotten you." Many Daughters of the American Revolution chapters devote hours to cleaning gravestones where deceased veterans' families have either died out or moved away.

After the Civil War, more local and state organizations were formed, many consisting of veterans themselves, to aid and comfort soldiers, widows and orphans.

By 1866, one year after the conflict ended, many of these groups combined forces to create the Grand Army of the Republic.

In 1868, they chose Gem. John Logan, a veteran of the war with Mexico, to serve as their third commander in chief. His first act was signing a general order renaming what was then called "Decoration Day" on the last Monday in May "Memorial Day."

Either way, it remains a solemn day to honor the war dead, from the American Revolution until the most recent wars today.

Its observations are fittingly basic. Former soldiers form up and fall in, often to the accompaniment of a local band, as they march to the cemetery where the ceremony be held. The crowd is welcomed by the commanding officer, the chaplain offers prayers, sometimes there is a short speech and rifle salute. The observance ends with another prayer and we sing the National Anthem. With that, we are thanked and dismissed.

Sometimes people wonder why there are not more units — perhaps local animal rescue groups, muscle cars or something else. The reason is the solemn observance is comparable to a funeral procession. Communities have other annual parades that welcome these community organizations.

As I see it, what matters most on Memorial Day is that today's citizens turn out to join the ceremony. These soldiers' sacrifice still matters to us, even generations later.

Today too is different. Our biggest threat seems to come from within. It is not one party or the other, but the constant bickering, partisanship and infighting on almost every topic. We have pulled back, hunkered down and are wary of anyone who isn't like us or thinks like us. Or votes like us. As the cartoon character Pogo said, "We have met the enemy, and he is us."

For an hour or so on Memorial Day we can rise above that. When we see the Stars and Strips coming down the street, we can see the whole history of this country, united under the banner of red, white and blue.

When the veterans march past, we are reminded that nearly 2 million men and women have died protecting that spirt, flag and us.

They bought and paid for our freedom, civil rights, free elections and public schools, asking only that we apply ourselves to maintain them.

And yes, on Memorial Day afternoon, if we go out on the water, to the golf course or have a backyard barbecue, we can thank veterans too.

Later on this summer, on July 4, we will follow President John Adams' wish to celebrate with parades, fireworks and hopefully short orations.

But now's time to thank those who made and still make all of this possible.

Do the Local Thing

Shopping in town helps local shops, cafes and restaurants, and the business owners who make them unique! When you shop local the whole community benefits.

ShopLocal

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

America First ... or last

To the Editor:

I'm in my mid-80s and will say that I'm more than shocked at the posture of the United States today. My background was typical, growing up in a small community, working as a paper boy, gas station attendant, and a handful of part-time factory jobs, attending Michigan public schools and universities. Back then costs were manageable with my earnings. Looking back, my life of work, leisure, and family were for the most part fulfilling, now I'm feeling exceedingly grateful, yet shocked at what I see.

No doubt, I was supported by family, friends, and community, some through challenging periods. Being a "War Baby", exposed me to catastrophe of WWII, recovery, then through the 60s, 90s, and now into the digital age. To say that a lot has changed over this period is a major understatement.

The simple statement "America First", makes bluntly clear that everyone else is second, at best. How is this? The idea of Democracy, at its very core, expresses the belief in equality. You and I, they and we… have equal agency (rights) to conduct our lives as we choose, the Golden rule, fair play, a Melting Pot of many different sorts. We've worked through our issues as Americans for nearly 250 years. We have been the undisputed leader of the free-world, have had the highest standard of living, super power status, unmatched in science, education, innovation, and civil liberties, protector of individual freedoms for all. How marvelous! Not perfect but steadily working to be better.

The Trump cohort believes in none of this. Not one bit! Nor do they pretend to. This is what I can't get over! He "who holds the best cards wins" pretty much states their approach to governing. It's greed and self-serving like we've never seen before, it's grab all you can for yourself. At issue is that morality is fundamental to democracy - decency, the Golden Rule, and compromise are required.

"Who holds the best cards" is an unworkable corruption of the ethical use of power, antithetical to any democratic process. So shocking to me is that Mr. Trump and his cohort simply don't believe in democratic rule. Mr. Trump has grifted (cheated) his way through life, a democratic thought having never entered his mind. This could not be more tragic for us as Americans as governing through personal self-interest is destroying our democracy (our freedoms) at its very core.

Jim Kauppi
Allegan

Gerrymandering shouldn't be allowed

Dear Editor:

REDISTRICTING is the process of redrawing the geographic boundaries of electoral districts for Congress, state legislatures, and local governments, usually occurring every 10 years following the US Census. It ensures districts have roughly equal populations, complying with the "one-person, one vote" standard to account for population shifts.

Now we have Gerrymandering: When map-drawers manipulate boundaries to FAVOR one party or group, often using tactics like "packing" (concentrating opposition voters) or "cracking" (splitting them apart).

Maps must comply with the US Constitution and the Voting Rights Act of 1965, which prohibits racial discrimination in voting.

As of MAY 2026, following Supreme Court rulings, the districts are now being GERRYMANDERED.

The Supreme Court significantly altered the redistricting landscape by rolling back protections under Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act. This major ruling sparked a mid-decade "gerrymandering frenzy" and an arms race of redrawn maps heavily favoring partisan interests ahead of the 2026 midterm elections.

THE GUTTING OF THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT: In a landmark 6-3 decision issued on April 29, 2026, the Supreme Court ruled that drawing maps specifically to maximize majority-minority districts constitutes an unconstitutional racial gerrymander under the Equal Protection Clause.

BUT they added that partisan gerrymandering is a "political question" beyond the reach of federal courts. Republican-led Southern states quickly moved to maximize their congressional seat counts.

SUPREME COURT FACES NEW CRITICISM FOR REDISTRICTING DECISION SO CLOSE TO 2026 ELECTIONS. Justices have said judges shouldn't interfere in election disputes so close to the primary process, but their own rulings have triggered a frenzy to draw new congressional maps.

It is my belief and opinion that EVERYONE should vote in the 2026 midterms, no matter what you think. WE NEED TO PROVE THAT EVERY VOTE COUNTS.

Pat Miner
Allegan

The Allegan COUNTY NEWS

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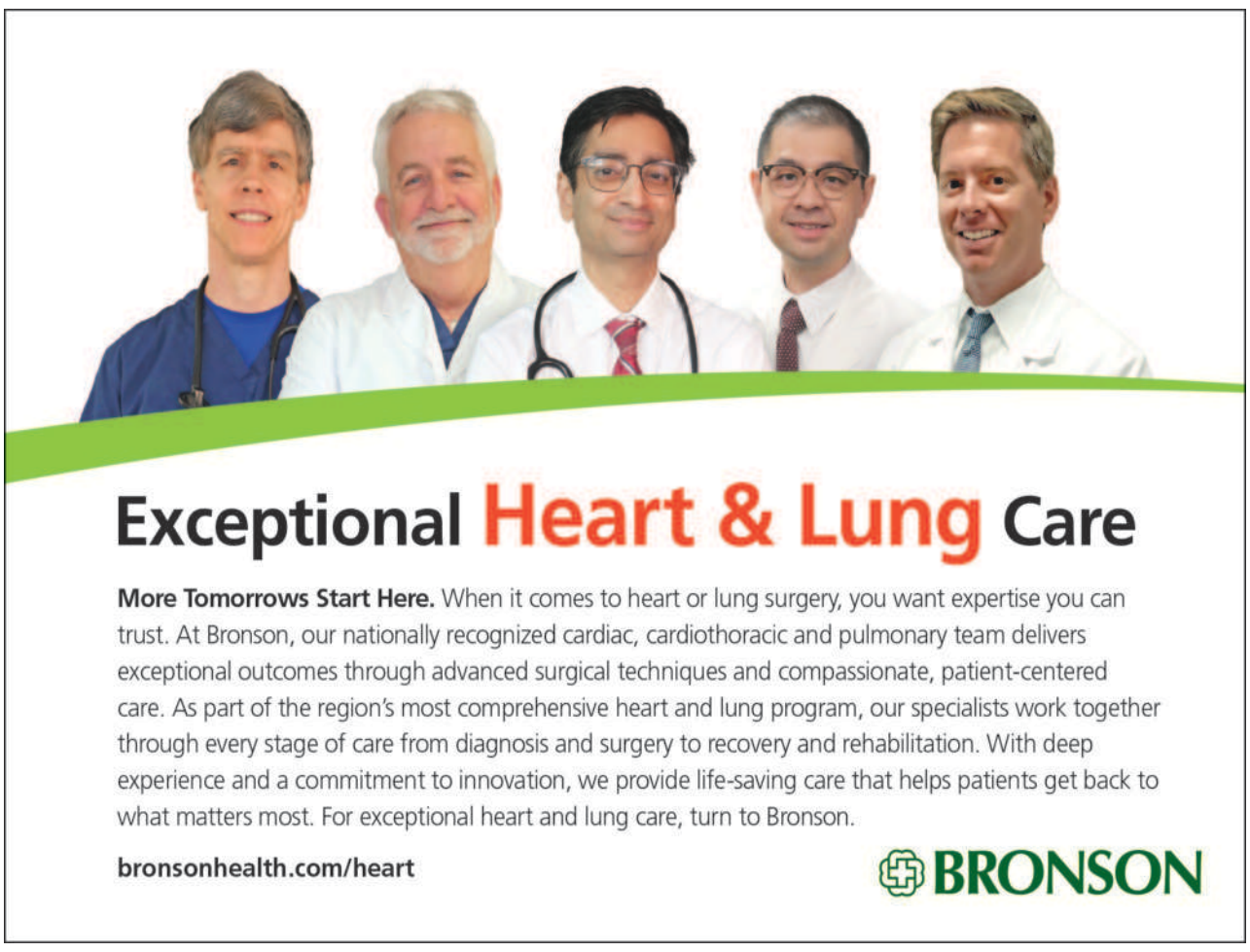

Eagles auxiliary hosts state president

On Wednesday, May 13th, Allegan Eagles 2315 Ladies Auxiliary had the opportunity and honor to host the Grand Madam President and State Grand Madam for the Fraternal Order of Eagles Auxillary. Provided was a great dinner with music and over 40 members were present. Between fundraisers and donations Allegan Eagles presented her with over $1700 to use for her charities.

Pictured: Grand Madam President, Rebecca Pelkey and Allegan Eagles 2315 Auxiliary President, Katie Burch

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

The History and Traditions of Memorial Day

Observed each year on the final Monday in May, Memorial Day serves as a time for Americans to honor the men and women who died while serving in the United States military. While many associate the holiday with parades, family gatherings, and the unofficial start of summer, its origins are rooted in remembrance and national reflection following the Civil War.

The earliest forms of Memorial Day emerged in the years after the Civil War, a conflict that claimed more American lives than any other war in the nation's history. Communities across the country began holding tributes for fallen soldiers by decorating their graves with flowers and flags. These observances became commonly known as "Decoration Day."

One of the earliest large-scale commemorations took place in 1868 when General John A. Logan, leader of a Union veterans organization, called for a nationwide day of remembrance on May 30. The date was chosen because flowers would be in bloom across much of the country, allowing graves to be decorated in honor of the fallen.

Over time, the observance expanded beyond Civil War soldiers to recognize Americans who died in all military conflicts. Following World War I, Memorial Day evolved into a broader national tribute to military service members who gave their lives in defense of the country. In 1971, the federal government officially designated Memorial Day as a national holiday and moved its observance to the final Monday in May.

Many Memorial Day traditions remain centered on remembrance and respect. Flags are placed at cemeteries and memorials, while communities often hold ceremonies, parades, and moments of silence. The playing of "Taps," the solemn bugle call long associated with military funerals, continues to be one of the holiday's most recognizable traditions.

Families also gather during the holiday weekend for cookouts, reunions, and community events. Though these celebrations have become part of the modern observance, veterans groups and civic leaders frequently remind Americans of the deeper meaning behind the holiday and the sacrifices it commemorates.

Today, Memorial Day remains both a solemn day of remembrance and a reflection of national gratitude. Across generations, the holiday continues to honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice while serving their country, ensuring their service and legacy are not forgotten.

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Faces in the Crowd

This year, Memorial Day will be on Monday, May 25th. It is a national holiday that, for many of us extends over a long three-day week end. This week's question: What does Memorial Day mean to you?

-Man near the Fennville hardware store: "It's the day we honor all the soldiers who got killed in war defending our country."

-Woman with him: "Not just the army soldiers but the sailors and the men and women in the Air Force, too. And the Marines and the Merchant Marines, as well."

-Couple near the Blue Goose; Woman: "It's a time for us to remember what's important around here. You know, patriotism and loyalty, and not a lot of this woke stuff." Man: "Thank God we've got a real patriot in the White House! Trump may not be perfect, but he's a lot better than what we've had in the past."

-Man near the Old Jail Museum: "Oh, for me it means going to the parade to watch my grandson in the band. He plays saxophone. I'm real proud of him."

-Friend with him: "That the kid that is the only one in step when they march?" Laughs. His friend did not.

-Young man near the Allegan Post Office: "I guess some people would say it's not very patriotic, but this is the week end my pop and I go up north to open the cabin. We've done it for years, and now that mom died, it's just the two of us. It's important to keep doing it."

-Couple, same location; Woman, "We got the plants for the urns at the cemetery. I mean, for the family urns, not everyone. When the kids were young, they went with us, but they're grown now. Man: "Yeah, they got underfoot and sometimes were messing around, but we always brought them along." Woman: "One year our daughter pulled up some flowers from another urn so she could help us plant." Man: "That was what you call a learning experience. We had to replant them back where they belonged."

-Young woman near Sassy Olive, "Oh, my husband's folks come over in the afternoon and we have a cook out. Nothing special, burgers and brats on the grill. It's sort of a habit with us."

-Man near the optometry office: Laughs. "Well, I'm going fishing if the weather's decent. And don't think I'm going to tell you my favorite spot caught you might tell someone. It's secret."

-Older woman near the Huntington Bank: "Well, if I can make it, I'll go to the parade and the ceremony. Then in the afternoon I go through some of the photo albums and remember all my relations that are gone. I know it's a day to honor the war dead, but it's my day to remember my family."

-Man near the Allegan Public Library: "First thing in the morning, I put up the flag and thank God I get to live in this wonderful country. We got our problems, but it's better here than anywhere else. Maybe if people didn't pay so much attention to the news they'd be happier."

13th Annual Living History Cemetery Tour brings the past to life

By Gari Voss

Did you ever wonder what it would be like if you could go back in time and ask questions of people who contributed to your past? The Friends of Oakwood Cemetery, 314 Western Ave., in Allegan, MI make this possible through their Annual Living History Tour. This is the 13th year that Amanda Strickfaden and her team of researchers and writers will take visitors on a trip back in time to learn the lore and legend of Allegan's residents.

"We actually have a theme this year, immigrants!" shared coordinator Amanda Strickfaden. "Some from the mid-1800s and one from post WWII."

To be truthful, Ms. Strickfaden is extremely closed lipped when it comes to reveling the characters who will be brought back to life. From one source, I did learn that Spike Kunetz will return. But in the form of whom? Curious people who wish to know, will just have to purchase a ticket for one of the tours.

"During the Living History Cemetery Tour in Allegan, guests move through the peaceful, park-like setting of Oakwood Cemetery while costumed presenters bring Allegan's history to life through first-person performances," reminded Drew Emborsky of the Bear and Fox Yarn Den. "Rather than simply reading names on headstones, visitors experience the stories, personalities, and legacies of those who helped build the town—turning local history into something vivid, personal, and surprisingly moving."

Tickets can be purchased at https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/13th-annual-living-history-cemetery-tour or google 13th Annual Living History Tour tickets. Tours depart from the chapel every 15 minutes between 5pm and 8pm and last for about an hour whether rain or shine. It is recommended to bring comfortable walking shoes and an umbrella if the sky looks menacing.

For those who attended the Living History Tour a couple years ago, they could have enjoyed the reenactment performed by Assistant City Manager Parker Johnson. The 13th Annual Living History Tour on Friday, May 29 and Saturday, May 30, 2026, is not one to miss as immigrants from Allegan's past tell their stories. Tickets can be purchased from https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/13th-annual-living-history-cemetery-tour. Photo courtsey of Friends of Oakwood Cemetery

As for the previous twelve years of the History Tours, this event is extremely important to those who love Oakwood Cemetery. The proceeds go toward purchasing supplies to clean and repair headstones of cemetery residents who no longer have family to maintain the plots.

"At The Bear & Fox Yarn Den™," reflected Emborsky, "we love seeing events like this because they remind us that communities are built through stories—both the ones we inherit and the ones we continue to make together."

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Community Impact Day brings people and businesses together to help

The last time Mike O'Neill was at the Felt Mansion, he was dressed for a friend's wedding. On Wednesday, May 13, 2026, he was dressed for the strong winds, 40-degree temperatures and holding a fistful of garlic mustard as part of Community Impact Day.

About 65 people from area businesses fanned out over the Felt Estate, 6597 138th Ave., and Gibson Cemetery, 6487 138th Ave., in the annual event sponsored by the Michigan West Coast Chamber of Commerce.

"It's such a beautiful place that I wanted to come back and help with the cleanup," said O'Neill of MillerKnoll, one of the several area businesses that supported Community Impact Day.

At the Felt Mansion, volunteers cleared out invasive species, planted flowers in the pollinator garden, painted railings and the side of the historic Chapel at Shore Acres.

"At its core, Community Impact Day is about connection. It brings together businesses, students, families, nonprofits, municipalities, and volunteers of all ages to work side by side," said Jodi Owczarski, president and CEO of the chamber. "It reminds us that creating positive change is truly a team sport. One of my favorite phrases connected to this event is that we are 'turning ripples of influence into tidal waves of positive impact.' That's exactly what this has become. Small acts of service multiplied across thousands of people can create transformational impact in communities everywhere."

About 2,000 volunteers participated around West Michigan through the West Coast Chamber on Wednesday, she said.

Kyle Chrisman of Great Lakes Furniture Supply wielded a paint brush on a railing on the stairs from the mansion to the Carriage House.

"It's good for the community," he said.

Beth DeJongh of MillerKnoll worked hard in a large patch of garlic mustard on Wednesday, pulling the invasive plant and putting them in a trash bag for disposal.

"It's great to see all the people come together and work toward a good cause," she said.

Less than a mile down the road, Kristen Sallmon, Michael Cuellar and Cooper Jennings from Edward Jones picked of debris and placed flags on the graves of service members at Gibson Cemetery.

Laketown Township employees Michelle Sall, Zoey Hallam and Sophia Poel spread mulch and added flowers to the gazebo at the cemetery.

Jeff Partyka, facilities operations for the township, delivered the mulch as well as the tools to the Felt Estate

Follow Laketown Township on Facebook, Instagram and Threads.

Beth DeJongh and Mike O'Neill, lower right, both of MillerKnoll, pick invasive garlic mustard while others paint a walkway railing at the Felt Estate, 6597 138th Ave., in Laketown Township on Wednesday, May 13, 2026, as part of Community Impact Day.

LaketownCommunityDay1: Michael Cuellar of Edward Jones puts American flags at the graves of veterans at Gibson Cemetery, 6487 138th Ave., in Laketown Township on Wednesday, May 13, 2026, as part of Community Impact Day.

Adam Johnson of Consumers Credit Union scrapes and paints the Chapel at Shore Acres at the Felt Estate, 6597 138th Ave., in Laketown Township on Wednesday, May 13, 2026, as part of Community Impact Day.

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Otsego District Library receives grant to enhance senior programming

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

The Otsego District Public Library is among 22 libraries across Michigan selected to receive grant funding aimed at addressing loneliness and social isolation among seniors.

Molina Healthcare of Michigan, in collaboration with The MolinaCares Accord, recently announced a combined $130,000 in grant funding that will be distributed through the Superiorland Library Cooperative to libraries throughout the state.

According to information released by Molina Healthcare of Michigan, the grants will support programs and initiatives focused on areas such as caregiver support, digital literacy and wellness programming.

The Otsego District Public Library announced it inclusion in the program via a Facebook post.

"ODPL was awarded $10,000 to enhance the library's senior programs and bring homebound services to senior/disabled patrons later this summer/early fall," library officials stated in the post. "Thank you Molina Healthcare for your MolinaCares grants to Michigan Libraries."

According to Molina Healthcare of Michigan, social isolation remains a significant concern for aging adults.

Information released by the organization stated that the health risks associated with loneliness and social isolation are "similar in scale to known health risks of cardiovascular disease, smoking, hypertension, and diabetes," adding that a lack of social connection can increase the risk of premature death by more than

60 percent.

"Libraries serve as all-inclusive community anchors, providing innovative programs and safe spaces for all," Superiorland Library Cooperative director Tricia Wylie stated in a release. "The Molina Healthcare of Michigan grants support libraries as lifelines of connection, helping reduce loneliness and isolation by bringing people together and strengthening community well-being."

Terrisca Des Jardins, plan president for Molina Healthcare of Michigan, said the grants will help expand support services for seniors and caregivers in communities across the state.

"Molina believes in a comprehensive approach to wellness by providing high-quality care and support programs that address critical determinants of health," Des Jardins stated. "This grant allows evidence-based initiatives to be taken to scale by expanding the skillsets of those giving care to seniors in each community."

Along with Otsego District Public Library, libraries receiving grant funding include systems and libraries in Bay County, Flint, Oxford, Westland, Ypsilanti and several other Michigan communities.

Additional information about the Otsego District Public Library's planned senior programming and homebound services is expected to be announced later this summer.

OPS's West Campus graduates celebrated during commencement ceremony

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

Students from Otsego Public Schools' West Campus High School celebrated a major milestone Sunday, May 5, as members of the Class of 2026 received their diplomas during a commencement ceremony.

The ceremony, which took place at Otsego High School auditorium, honored six graduates from the nontraditional high school program, which is designed to provide flexible learning opportunities tailored to individual student needs.

Members of the graduating class included Brendan Baclich, Camden Huggins, Karsyn Johnson, Alexandria Marble, Molly Reynolds and Arianna Showerman.

Otsego West Campus graduate Karsyn Johnson addresses the crowd at graduation. (Photo provided)

Otsego West Campus graduates wait to receive their diplomas. (Photo provided)

The Class of 2026 selected the motto, "Successful people find ways to be successful."

West Campus teacher Steve Long welcomed graduates and reflected on the impact of helping students reach graduation.

"Helping them believe they can be successful in school, that it's worth the effort and that graduation is possible, is why we're here," Long said, according to district officials. "I became a teacher to make an impact. Seeing students who never thought they'd finish school graduate and grow into amazing young men and women means everything."

Graduates also were recognized by several district representatives in attendance, including Superintendent Dr. Christie Robinson, Director of Secondary Instruction Dr. Mark Rollandini and members of the Otsego Public Schools Board of Education.

The ceremony included a performance of "A Rockwell Portrait" by the River Cities Concert Band and an address from graduate Johnson, who reflected on her educational journey and the support she received from Long, paraprofessional Janine Borling and her family.

District officials said that support helped Johnson believe in herself and ultimately reach graduation.

Otsego Public Schools described the graduating class as students who demonstrated perseverance and determination while reaching the milestone of earning their diplomas.

"Please join us in congratulating these students on earning this achievement," district officials said. "Otsego Public Schools is proud of the Class of 2026 and all they have accomplished."

Otsego, Plainwell celebrate prom 2026

The annual tradition that is prom continued for students at Plainwell High School and Otsego High School.

Plainwell held its prom on Saturday, May 2, at the Kalamazoo Institute of Art. Attendees (seen at right) had fun in the photo booth and doing other activities.

Otsego's prom (seen at left) followed on Saturday, May 9. The OHS prom took place at Riverbend Estate in Otsego for a Vegas-themed evening. Students spent the evening dancing, taking photos and celebrating with classmates. (Photos provided)

Memorial Day Celebrations around Allegan County

By Gari Voss

Monday, May 25th marks Memorial Day 2026, a day to remember all those who have given their lives to preserve the freedom of the United States. Across Allegan County, veterans, community leaders, and volunteers have planned celebrations to honor those from their communities who gave the ultimate to their country – their lives.

City of Otsego
Monday, May 25, 2026, 9am: Service & Parade

Honor and Remember ceremony in Otsego will be coordinated by Otsego VFW Post 3030 and the American Legion Post 84 of Otsego.

9:00am: Service at the Mountain Home Cemetery, 680 N. Farmer St.

9:10am: Parade entries will line up at the DPW driveway and USG parking lots

9:20am: The Parade will march south on Farmer Street with a stop for a rifle salute at the River then end at Memorial Park, 751 S. Farmer St. All are welcome to join in the parade.

After Parade: Memorial Service at Memorial Park.

After Service: Free Lunch at Otsego VFW, 124 N. Farmer St.

For additional information, call 296 694-4615.

City of Plainwell
Monday, May 25, 2026, 11am: Memorial Day Parade & Remembrance

The Plainwell VFW Post 9377, American Legion Post 84, the Friends of the Greater Plainwell Veterans Memorial, Inc., and the City of Plainwell invite and encourage all from children through adults to participate in celebrating the fallen armed services members by being in the parade, watching the parade, and coming to the cemetery for this very special tribute.

Before 10:45am - Parade participants Lineup – the Plainwell High School Band, horses, bikes, and vehicles – should be lined up by Ace Hardware in Plainwell. Participants should contact Cheryl C. Parente-Roggow at 269 685-3413 and leave a message.

11am – Parade Steps Off: The Parade will head to the Hillside Cemetery via M-89, N. Andeson St. and E. Bridge St. A stop will be made on the bridge to remember those lost at sea.

11:45am (approx.) - A Ceremony to Remember the Fallen: Hillside Cemetery, 390 8th St., Plainwell.

Contact Cheryl at (269) 685-3413 for more information and to register for the parade.

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Allegan wins all eight flights to claim regional title

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

The Allegan girls tennis team added another regional championship to its impressive program history Thursday.

But this one came with a historic twist.

For the first time in program history, the Tigers captured all eight flight championships at a Division 4 regional, finishing with 32 points to claim the regional title and set a new school record in the process.

According to Allegan coach Damien Arthur, the accomplishment is especially significant given the tradition of the program.

"For a girls tennis program that has finished State Runner-Up four times, won 20-plus regional titles, and captured 35-plus conference championships, this is an incredibly special accomplishment," Arthur said. "Yesterday, this team raised the bar."

The Allegan girls tennis team made history by winning all eight flights during regional play. (Photo provided)

Arthur noted that the Tigers' previous program record of seven flight championships at a regional had been achieved in 2013, 2014 and 2017.

Leading the way for the Tigers were regional champions Addy Fales at No. 1 singles, Camdyn Drozd at No. 2 singles, Kendall Halstead at No. 3 singles and Ava Thompson at No. 4 singles.

Allegan also swept the doubles flights, with Madison Cook and Ireland Dewey winning at No. 1 doubles, Hanna Kievit and Taylor Fuller taking first at No. 2 doubles, Sophia Augustine and Emma Scheffler claiming the No. 3 doubles title, and Kaylee Haas and Hailey Gauthier finishing first at No. 4 doubles.

Fales defeated Buchanan's River Thompson 6-0, 6-2 in the finals at No. 1 singles, while Drozd earned a 6-1, 6-0 victory over Buchanan's Brooke Berninger in the No. 2 singles championship match.

Halstead posted a 6-1, 6-0 win over Buchanan's Maddie Meyer at No. 3 singles, and Thompson battled past Calvin Christian's Claire Koster 6-4, 4-6, 5-0 (retired) in the finals at No. 4 singles.

At doubles, Cook and Dewey defeated Calvin Christian's No. 1 doubles team 6-1, 6-2 in the finals, while Kievit and Fuller earned a 6-1, 6-1 victory over Buchanan at No. 2 doubles.

Augustine and Scheffler captured the No. 3 doubles title with a 6-0, 6-1 win over Berrien Springs, while Haas and Gauthier outlasted Buchanan 6-3, 6-7(7), 6-3 in the No. 4 doubles finals.

Arthur said the record-setting performance reflects the work and growth the team has shown throughout the season.

"I am honestly at a loss for words when it comes to what this group has accomplished this season," Arthur said. "It has been an absolute joy to watch them compete, grow, support each other, and succeed together."

Arthur also praised the bond shared by the players and the opportunity coaches have to witness moments like Thursday's championship run.

"As coaches, this is why we do what we do," Arthur said. "We invest in young people, push them, challenge them, believe in them, and then we get to watch them celebrate their accomplishments with smiles and cheers. Moments like yesterday are a powerful reminder of why coaching is so special."

The regional title also secured Allegan a spot in the Division 4 State Finals.

"I could not be more proud of these girls," Arthur said. "They have earned everything they have achieved this season."

Arthur added that the Tigers are excited for the opportunity to continue their season together at state.

"We are also excited that our seniors have earned two more weeks together, as the Tigers have officially qualified for the State Finals," he said.

Otsego boys earn regional crown in dramatic fashion

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

STURGIS—Going into the final event of the night, the Otsego found itself looking up at Three Rivers in the team standings at the Division 2 boys regional track meet at Sturgis on Friday, May 15.

A few minutes later, the Bulldogs were regional champions.

Otsego closed the meet with a victory in the 4x400 relay to surge past Three Rivers and capture the regional title with 84.83 points. Three Rivers was second with 79, while Edwardsburg placed third at 75.5.

Otsego entered the 4x400 relay trailing Three Rivers, but the quartet of Ezekiel Andrina, Kaleb Koestner, Ty Oaks and Jack Cook crossed the line first in 3:26.90 to seal the regional championship.

Even more impressive was the fact that the Bulldogs posted the top overall time despite competing in the first heat of the event.

Plainwell tied for 10th with 25 points, while Allegan finished 14th with six.

Cook helped pace Otsego's championship effort by winning the 200 dash in a personal-best time of 21.54, while Oaks captured the regional title in the 400 dash in 49.89.

Alex Robbins added another regional championship for the Bulldogs by winning the discus with a throw of 162-4. Robbins also qualified for the Division 2 State Finals in the shot put with a third-place throw of 53-8.

Otsego qualified in several other events as well.

Kenny Sheffer earned a state finals berth in the 3,200 run by finishing runner-up in 9:54.42, while Carson Brooks qualified in the pole vault after clearing a personal-best 13-2 to place third.

Sam Cook (left) prepares to take a handoff for Otsego in a recent meet. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

Ethan Simpson also punched his ticket to the state finals with a personal-best leap of 21-4 in the long jump, good for third place.

The Bulldogs' 4x100 relay team of Andrina, Roman Mitchell, Sam Cook and Jack Cook qualified with a time of 44.20, while the 4x200 relay team of Andrina, Mitchell, Sam Cook and Jack Cook placed second in 1:30.20 to advance.

Otsego also received strong performances from Ryan Long, George Whitaker, Gunnar Djerf and Kingston Lennan, who teamed up to place third in the 4x800 relay in 8:30.90.

Plainwell was led by Sawyer Lilly, who qualified for the state finals in both throwing events.

Lilly placed fourth in the shot put with a toss of 50-2 and added a fifth-place finish in the discus at 138-0.

The Trojans also saw Loehn Luckett qualify in the pole vault after clearing a personal-best 12-8 to place fifth.

Allegan's top performance came from Kellen Chalupa, who qualified for the state finals in the 800 run with a personal-best time of 1:59.91 to place third.

Wayland boys take first place

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

ALLENDALE—Depth mattered for the Wayland boys track and field team all season long.

That depth paid off in a big way at the Division 2 regional meet hosted by Allendale on Saturday, May 16.

Behind strong performances across the board, the Wildcats captured the regional championship with 94 points. Coopersville was second with 91, followed by Hopkins in third with 58 and Hamilton in fifth with 52.

Wayland qualified athletes for the Division 2 state finals in eight events, including all three sprint relays.

Brock Wheeler led the way for Wayland by winning the 400-meter dash in a state-qualifying time of 50.66 seconds. Wheeler also helped the Wildcats win the 4x200 relay in 1:29.49 and place second in the 4x400 relay in 3:27.82. Both relays qualified for the state finals as well.

Joining Wheeler on the winning 4x200 relay were Henry Maass, Luke VandeZande and Jake Reeder, while Reeder, Alex Hubbard and Chance Lenhart teamed with Wheeler on the 4x400 relay.

Wayland also qualified in the 4x100 relay, as Drew Hudson, Reeder, VandeZande and Maass combined for a time of 43.50.

Reeder added an individual state-qualifying performance by placing second in the 200 in 22.20, while Hubbard qualified in both hurdle events after finishing fourth in the 110 hurdles (15.47) and second in the 300 hurdles (41.04).

The Wayland boys track team showed its depth in winning a Division 2 regional title. (Photo provided)

Justin Springs won a regional title in the long jump with a leap of 22-1.

Hopkins also had several state qualifiers.

Clayton Kerber had a huge day for the Vikings, winning the 300 hurdles in a personal-record time of 40.07 seconds and qualifying in the 110 hurdles by placing third in 15.24.

Kellen Ford qualified in the 100 after taking second in 11.07, while Kash Moored qualified in the 800 with a personal-record time of 2:00.05.

The Hopkins 4x800 relay team of Jack Estelle, Moored, Noah Gibson and Grady Johnston also punched its ticket to the state finals by placing third in 8:07.13. Estelle finished fifth in the 1,600 at 4:26.02 to meet the qualifying standard.

Parker Warners qualified in the long jump after placing fourth with a personal-record leap of 21-2, while Luke Klinge and Graycin Ingle each qualified in the pole vault after both cleared 12-8.

Hamilton was paced by a strong showing in the hurdles and relays.

Hudsen Hulst won the 110 hurdles in a personal-record time of 14.50, while Garner Hulst finished second in 15.15 as both qualified for the state finals.

Hamilton's 4x100 relay team of Kuno Chico, Hudsen Hulst, Carter Hickok and Noel Vigil qualified for the state finals by placing seventh in 44.00, while the 4x200 relay team of Hickok, Garner Hulst, Hudsen Hulst and Vigil placed second in a state-qualifying time of 1:30.87.

Carter Ruzicka qualified in the shot put after placing second with a throw of 46-6.

B&C TROPHY and Apparel, Inc. ATHLETE of the WEEK

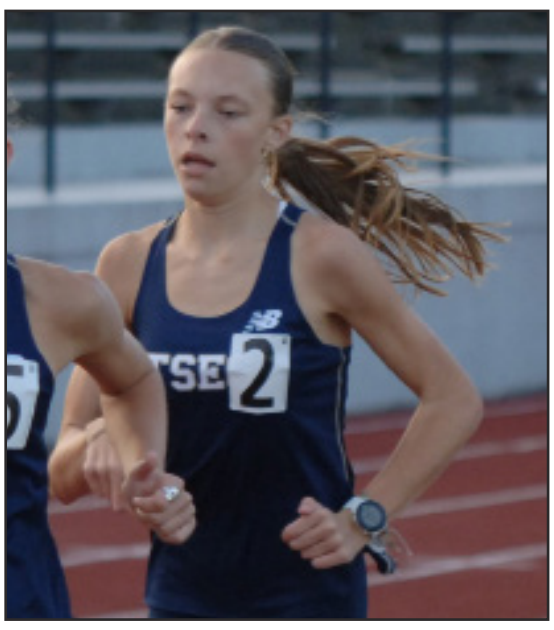
Alayna Verhage
Otsego
GirlsTrack and Field

As a freshman, Otsego's Alayna Verhage was competing at a high school regional for the first time when the Bulldogs headed to Sturgis on Friday, May 15.

If she was nervous, she didn't show it.

Verhage took first place in the 3200-meter run, posting a time of 11:24.53. Prior to that, she placed second in the 1600 in a personal-best time of 5:16.14.

She qualified for the state finals in both events.



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Freshman Robison helps lift Saugatuck boys to third

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

MONTAGUE—For the record, Saugatuck's Charles Robison is only a freshman.

But at the Division 3 boys track and field regional hosted by Montague on Friday, May 15, he performed like a seasoned veteran.

In addition to winning the 300-meter hurdles in a personal-record time of 41.41 seconds, Robison finished runner-up in both the 100 dash (11.38) and 200 dash (23.48).

All three finishes earned Robison spots in the Division 3 State Finals.

Thanks largely to that effort by Robison, Saugatuck placed third in the 17-team field with 80 points. Belding won the regional title with 102 points, followed by Wyoming Potter's House Christian with 82.5 points.

Fennville finished 15th with 13 points.

Robison was not the only Saugatuck athlete to earn state-finals berths.

In the 3,200 run, Jackson Bowman placed third in 9:56.15 while Sawyer Monroe finished fourth in 10:02.90, with both runners meeting the state qualifying standard.

The Trailblazers also advanced a pair of relay teams to the state finals.

The 4x400 relay team of Chase Skinner, Robison, Alek Diaz and Grant Rehkopf placed third in 3:33.53, while the 4x800 relay team of Ira Brown, Bowman, Monroe and Rehkopf finished fourth in 8:28.14.

Other top performances for Saugatuck included Pete Mitchell placing fourth in the long jump at 20-2.25, Skinner finishing fifth in the 300 hurdles (44.28) and ninth in the high jump (5-5), Diaz taking fifth in the 400 dash (53.13), and Gabriel Lauer placing fourth in the 200 dash (24.02).

Fennville was led by fantastic freshman of its own.

Julian Weimer captured the regional title in the long jump with a leap of 20-5.5 to earn a trip to the state finals.

Ivan "Gabe" Gonzalez also turned in a strong day for the Blackhawks, placing 11th in both the 800 run (2:06.32) and 1,600 run (4:38.82), recording a personal-best time in the 1,600.

Other notable performances for Fennville included Atticus Boeve placing 11th in the 800 run (2:08.64), Israel Arredondo taking 11th in the shot put (38-8) and 13th in the discus with a personal-best throw of 112-2, and Christopher Davie finishing ninth in the long jump at 18-1.75.

Freshman Charles Robison competes for Saugatuck in a recent meet. (Photo by Vince Heyser)

Mathis, Homrich qualify in multiple events

Hopkins' Riley Homrich qualified for the finals in three events.

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

ALLENDALE—In a regional meet loaded with strong individual performances, Wayland's Evie Mathis and Hopkins' Riley Homrich made sure to leave their mark on Saturday, May 16.

Mathis qualified for the Division 2 state finals in three events—including a regional title in the pole vault—while Homrich qualified in three events of her own at the Division 2 regional hosted by Allendale.

As a team, Hopkins placed fourth with 56 points, narrowly edging fifth-place Wayland Union, which finished with 52.5. Hamilton was ninth with 23 points.

Mathis put together one of the top all-around performances of the day.

The senior cleared a personal-record 13 feet to win the pole vault regional championship and qualify for the state finals. She also helped Wayland's 4x200 relay team of Megan Brogger, Quinn Reeder and Laney Wolf capture a regional title in 1:47.26.

Mathis added a third state-qualifying performance as part of the Wildcats' 4x100 relay team. She joined Reeder, Wolf and Brogger on the team that placed third in 51.58.

Homrich, meanwhile, continued her outstanding season for Hopkins.

The senior sprint standout won the 100-meter dash in a personal-record time of 12.44 seconds and added a runner-up finish in the 200 in 26.49.

She also qualified in the long jump after placing fourth with a leap of 16-6.

Wayland had several other strong performances in addition to Mathis' big day.

Wolf finished fourth in both the 100 and 200, while Brogger placed third in the 200 with a season-best time of 27.13.

Hopkins also got a state-qualifying performance from Keilah Bonga, who placed second in the discus with a personal-record throw of 129-9.

Andrea Brower added a fourth-place finish and state-qualifying time of 49.08 in the 300 hurdles.

Hamilton was led by Jenna Dozeman, who qualified for the state finals in two events.

Dozeman placed third in the 400 in a personal-record 1:00.21 and also qualified in the long jump by finishing third with a leap of 16-6.25.

Saugatuck soccer beats Allegan in home finale

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

SAUGATUCK—The Saugatuck girls soccer team closed out its regular-season home schedule in style Thursday, May 14.

The Trailblazers turned in a strong all-around effort in a 2-0 win over Allegan, using a pair of first-half goals and a sharp defensive performance after halftime to seal the victory.

Senior midfielder Neave Rewa got Saugatuck on the board after teaming with fellow senior Jordan Sanders on a crisp passing sequence that ended with Rewa finding the back of the net. Sanders earned the assist on the play.

The Trailblazers struck again in dramatic fashion just before halftime.

With only seconds remaining before the break, Rewa sent a high-arching ball toward the front of the goal, where senior Avery Smith tracked it down and headed it in to double Saugatuck's lead heading into halftime.

The Blazers' defense took care of the rest from there.

Senior outside defender Kielee Sisson and freshman Claire Robb helped anchor a strong second half defensively as Saugatuck kept Allegan from mounting a comeback attempt.

Saugatuck coach Neal Phillips said it was the kind of complete team effort the Blazers were hoping to see heading toward postseason play.

"The Allegan Tigers came to town hungry, but we were ready for the challenge," Phillips said.

Martinson, DeGraaf lead Saugatuck girls track at regionals

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

MONTAGUE—When it came time for the Saugatuck girls track and field team to deliver at Friday's Division 3 regional, Alina Martinson and Novella DeGraaf provided quite the one-two punch.

Martinson captured a pair of regional titles, while DeGraaf qualified for the Division 3 State Finals in three events to lead the Trailblazers to a third-place finish at the 16-team regional hosted by Montague on Friday, May 15.

Saugatuck totaled 87.5 points. Newaygo claimed the regional title with 113 points, followed by Grandville Calvin Christian with 91.

Fennville finished 10th with 24 points.

Martinson paced the Trailblazers by winning both the 400 dash and 800 run. She crossed the line in 1:01.07 to win the 400 before taking top honors in the 800 with a time of 2:26.22.

DeGraaf, meanwhile, turned in a big day of her own.

She won the pole vault by clearing 10-3, finished runner-up in the 100 hurdles in 15.74 and added another second-place finish in the long jump with a personal-best leap of 16-11.75.

All three performances earned DeGraaf spots at the state finals.

Saugatuck also qualified its 4x800 relay team for the state finals as Kamryn Sixberry, Ellyse Heyser, Lyvia Curtis and Savannah VanDenBerg placed third in 10:09.83.

Other strong performances for the Trailblazers included Heyser placing third in the 3,200 run with a personal-best time of 12:06.26, Sixberry taking fourth in the 800 run in 2:32.06 and fifth in the 1,600 run in 5:39.37, and Heyser finishing fourth in the 1,600 in 5:38.90.

Curtis added a sixth-place finish in the 3,200 run in 12:27.95, while Bella Ketterer placed sixth in the 300 hurdles in 53.72.

Fennville was led by Isabelle Sliter, who qualified for the state finals in a pair of distance events.

Sliter finished runner-up in the 3,200 run with a season-best time of 12:00.10 and also placed third in the 1,600 run in 5:27.67 to earn state finals berths in both events.

Other notable performances for the Blackhawks included Macy Samp placing fourth in the 200 dash in 27.84 and fifth in the pole vault at 8-3, while Melody Ponce recorded a personal-best throw of 47-10 in the discus.

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Clippers secure share of divisional championship

Martin shortstop Haylen Buell makes a tag on a steal attempt during a recent game. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

DELTON—The doubleheader sweep over Delton on Tuesday, May 12, meant a little more for the Martin baseball team.

With the wins, the Clippers clinched a share of the conference championship with Galesburg-Augusta, securing the program's first league title since 2007.

For Martin coach Brad Blauvelt, it was a moment worth appreciating considering where the program was just a few years ago.

"Four years ago, we took over a program that hadn't won a game since 2017," Blauvelt said. "This senior group has been here since the very beginning of that rebuild."

Blauvelt said seniors such as Haylen Buell have helped change the direction and culture of the program.

"Haylen Buell hit .571 as a freshman, and not much has changed since then," Blauvelt said. "This group of seniors has had a huge impact on the culture of the program and helped lay the foundation for where we are today."

Martin opened the day with a 7-6 win before completing the sweep with an 18-4 victory.

In the opener, Jace Brinkhuis went 3-for-4 with a double and helped spark Martin offensively.

Peyton Schuring-Harris drove in a run in the first inning before Zaiden Buell delivered a two-run single in the second to put the Clippers back in front for good.

Martin added three more runs in the third inning, highlighted by RBI singles from Brinkhuis and Anderson Keeler. Keeler later stole home as part of an aggressive Martin attack that produced 10 stolen bases.

Jackson Kennedy earned the win after striking out 10 over 4 2/3 innings, while Haylen Buell picked up the save.

Schuring-Harris finished with two hits, while Keeler, Buell and Brinkhuis each stole multiple bases.

The Clippers followed that up with an offensive outburst in the nightcap.

Haylen Buell drove in four runs and collected four hits, including a solo home run, to lead Martin to the 18-4 win.

Martin scored four runs in the first inning as Schuring-Harris doubled home two runs and Blake Sweeting followed with a two-run single.

The Clippers added five more runs in the second inning and never looked back.

Haylen Buell added an RBI triple and sacrifice fly to go with his home run, while Schuring-Harris also collected four hits in the game.

Keeler doubled and drove in two runs, Hopkins tripled and drove in a run, and Zaiden Buell added multiple hits as Martin piled up 17 hits overall.

Bryer Watson tossed 2 2/3 scoreless innings in relief, allowing no hits while striking out five.

Allegan's VandenAkker, Otsego's Verhage shine at regionals

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

STURGIS—Allegan senior Jayden VandenAkker and Otsego freshman Alayna VerHage may be at opposite ends of their high school careers. But the two local standouts produced similarly impressive performances at the Division 2 regional track and field meet in Sturgis on Friday, May 15.

VerHage and VandenAkker each won one event and finished runner-up in another while helping pace strong overall showings for their respective teams.

VerHage captured the regional title in the 3,200 run with a time of 11:24.53 and added a runner-up finish in the 1,600 run in 5:16.14. Both performances earned her spots at the Division 2 State Finals.

VandenAkker, meanwhile, won the 100 hurdles in a season-best time of 14.65 and finished second in the 300 hurdles in 47.26, also qualifying for the state finals in both events.

VerHage's effort helped lead Otsego to a third-place finish in the team standings with 74 points. Stevensville Lakeshore won the regional title with 89.33 points, while Sturgis was second at 75.5.

Allegan finished 10th with 33 points, while Plainwell placed 12th at 25.33.

Otsego had several other state qualifiers as well.

Skylar Mejeur qualified in the 800 run after placing third in 2:22.20, while Addelyn Sabatke earned a state berth in the 3,200 with a fifth-place finish in 11:42.67.

Olivia Klimp also advanced in both hurdle events, placing third in the 100 hurdles in a personal-record 15.54 and third in the 300 hurdles in a personal-best 47.73.

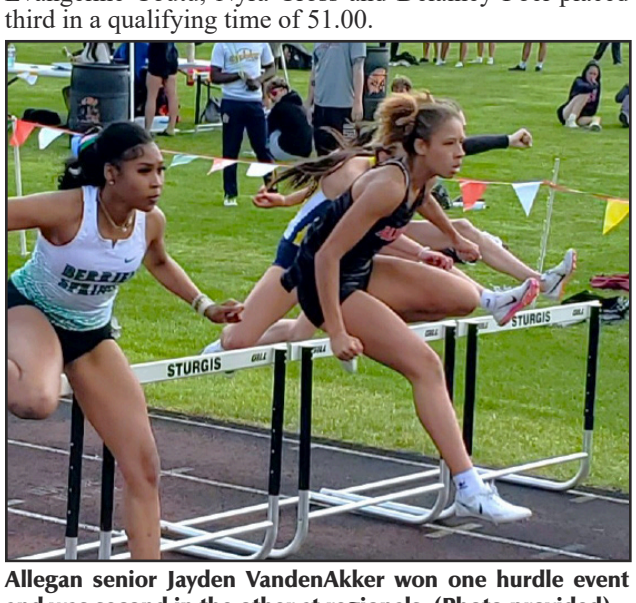
The Bulldogs' 4x400 relay team of Kyla Haak, Adelyn VerHage, Mejeur and Klimp qualified for the finals with a third-place finish in 4:12.77.

Otsego also got a third-place finish from Audrey Holmes in the shot put at 35-4, while Madden Fitzpatrick placed second in the discus with a personal-record throw of 120-4 to qualify for the state finals.

For Allegan, Bailee Dilley qualified for states by winning the pole vault with a personal-best clearance of 12-6. She also added a fourth-place finish in the 400 dash in 1:01.25.

Plainwell was led by Mai Nguyen, who qualified for the state finals in both distance events. She placed fourth in the 1,600 run in 5:20.51 and was runner-up in the 3,200 in 11:31.32.

The Trojans' 4x100 relay team of Hailey Newcomb, Evangeline Coutu, Nyra Cross and Delainey Poel placed third in a qualifying time of 51.00.


Allegan senior Jayden VandenAkker won one hurdle event and was second in the other at regionals. (Photo provided)

Otsego's Burd qualifies for state Division 3 state finals

Otsego senior Hailey Burd will represent the Bulldogs at the Division 3 state finals. (Photo provided)

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

PAW PAW—A strong season for the Otsego girls tennis team came to an end Thursday, May 14, as the Bulldogs narrowly missed qualifying for the Division 3 State Finals as a team.

Otsego finished third at the Division 3 regional hosted by Paw Paw and Kalamazoo College with 16 points, just two shy of the 18-point mark needed to earn an at-large state finals berth. Grand Rapids South Christian won the regional title with 26 points, while Hamilton finished second with 21 points to claim the region's automatic qualifying spot.

Despite falling just short as a team, the Bulldogs will still be represented at the Division 3 State Finals in Midland thanks to senior Hailey Burd, who qualified individually with a runner-up finish at No. 1 singles.

"Hailey came into the tournament just short of a seeded spot and was ready to prove her skills to the region," Otsego coach Melissa Garrett said.

After opening with a win over West Michigan Lutheran, Burd defeated the No. 3 seed from St. Joseph in the quarterfinals before facing conference rival Cheyenne Small of Niles in the semifinals.

After losing to Small at the Wolverine Conference tournament less than a week earlier, Burd responded with a 6-1, 7-5 victory to earn a spot in the regional finals.

"Hailey played hands down, the best tennis of her career on Thursday," Garrett said.

Burd eventually fell to top-seeded Alyssa Crain of Paw Paw 6-0, 6-1 in the championship match, but her runner-up finish secured a berth in the state finals.

"I'm incredibly proud of Hailey for her finish on Thursday and for advancing to the State finals," Garrett said.

Burd was not the only Bulldog to turn in a strong performance on the day. In fact, Otsego picked up opening-round victories at all eight flights.

"The girls came out ready to play and faced each match with grit and determination," Garrett said. "The early wins at 4 doubles by Brooklynn Cockerel and Emma Gilson and 3 doubles by Rachel Breese and Laney Sweet were huge. We picked up some key second-round wins at every singles flight and at 1 and 2 doubles."

At No. 1 doubles, Stella Houseman and Sara McCaw reached the semifinals before falling to Hamilton 6-4, 6-0.

The No. 2 doubles team of Mila Garrett and Hope Stender also advanced to the semifinals, where they pushed Grand Rapids South Christian to three sets before dropping a 6-4, 4-6, 6-1 decision.

On the singles side, sophomore Alie Bronson advanced to the semifinals at No. 4 singles with a 7-2, 6-1 victory over Hastings in the quarterfinals before falling to Grand Rapids South Christian 6-1, 6-2.

At No. 3 singles, junior Lydia Griffith defeated Plainwell's Anna Hall 6-3, 6-2 in the second round before losing to Hamilton's Kylie Rietema 6-4, 6-2 in the semifinals.

Senior Ellie Korringa put together one of the Bulldogs' top performances of the day at No. 2 singles. After defeating a Plainwell opponent in the second round and advancing past Grand Rapids South Christian in the semifinals, Korringa reached the regional championship match before finishing runner-up to St. Joseph.

Although the Bulldogs narrowly missed extending their season as a full team, Garrett said the season remained a successful and memorable one.

"The girls had a great season," Coach Garrett said. "I will miss this group of seniors and the leadership they gave our team. They really knew how to have fun, but work hard at the same time."

Martin's Conley punches ticket to state finals in four events

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

GOBLES—Qualifying for the Track and Field State Finals in one event is an accomplishment.

Martin's Veyda Conley qualified in all four of hers.

The Martin junior turned in a standout performance at the Division 4 regional hosted by Gobles on Friday, May 15, qualifying for the state finals in the 800 run, 1,600 run, 3,200 run and as part of the Clippers' 4x800 relay team.

In doing so, Conley became the first Martin athlete in recent memory to qualify for the state finals in all four of her events.

Conley finished runner-up in the 800 run in 2:27.05, placed second in the 1,600 run with a personal-record time of 5:15.42 and added another second-place finish in the 3,200 run in 12:02.34.

She also teamed with Torryn Harris, Allison Rodgers and Sara Schipper to help the Clippers' 4x800 relay squad place third in 10:21.32, a time that also met the state qualifying standard.

Behind performances like those, the Martin girls placed third in the team standings with 67 points. Kalamazoo Hackett won the regional title with 164 points, while Gobles was second at 106.

The Martin boys finished fifth as a team with 47 points. Kalamazoo Hackett also captured the boys regional title with 119.5 points, followed by Eau Claire at 106 and Gobles at 97.5.

The Clippers had several other strong performances on the girls' side.

Aliyah DeGlopper qualified for the state finals in the shot put after placing third with a personal-record throw of 32-9.75.

Schipper added fourth-place finish in the 400 dash in a personal-record 1:03.80 and also placed seventh in the long jump, while Harris was fifth in the 400 in a season-best 1:05.62.

Rodgers contributed points in both distance races, placing seventh in the 3,200 and eighth in the 1,600, while Kyleigh Buell finished fourth in the long jump with a personal-best leap of 14-0.

On the boys side, Seth Smit qualified for the Division 4 State Finals in the long jump after finishing runner-up with a personal-record jump of 20-1.5.

Peyton Schuring-Harris also earned a state finals berth by placing third in the shot put with a season-best throw of 43-11.

Martin also received strong performances from Hunter Hayes, who placed fifth in both the 1,600 and 3,200 runs, and from Lucian King and Blake Sweeting, who tied for third in the high jump after each cleared 5-6.

The Clippers' 4x800 relay team of Jeremiah VanHouten, Gari Salvador-Garcia, Hayes and Jadon Dettmann added a fourth-place finish in 8:47.51.

PEEK AT THE PAST

From the pages of The Allegan News and The Allegan County News and Gazette:

May 24, 1951

Son of ex-resident on staff at Naval research station: The son of a former Allegan girl, Helen Merchant, now Mrs. E. Herman of Detroit, is a physicist at the Navy's most important research station, the Naval Ordinance Test Station at Inyokern, China Lake, California, it was learned this week.

The son, Robert W. Ferman, is on the staff of the Test Department which has the responsibility for guided missile work thru testing, including development, testing, and assessment programs with new rockets.

Technical director of the station is Dr. L. T. Thompson, formerly head of the department of physics at Kalamazoo College 1920-24. The appointment of Herman to the staff of the test station became known in letters to Kalamazoo college officials by Dr. Thompson.

It seems that Dr. Thompson, a 1914 graduate of Kalamazoo college himself, has three Kalamazoo College graduates on his staff. Herman being one of them.

A graduate of Kalamazoo College in the year of 1945, Herman followed the footsteps of his parents, both being graduates of the college.

May 20, 1976

Players turn 'Frog' into prince of play: The Allegan Community Players scored another hit with the children last Friday and Saturday with their production of "Bracko, the Prince Frog," a comedy in which three of the illustrious characters are transformed into frogs by a bumbling magician.

Much of the modernized fairy tale dialogue appeared lost on the youngest and certain scenes were frightening for some of them, but the bright adults who saw the well-attended play—and most of the children—seemed to enjoy the madcap tale of misadventures that all happened in an echoing grotto.

Director Laura Purkey guided a group of talented actors and actresses thru their paces in roles that allowed most of them to "act their hearts out."

It's tough to project to a full house of youngsters and hold their attention for an hour, but when the action began to drag at times, the troupe recaptured the audience.

Outstanding were Ken Andrews, of course, whose second home is a stage; Jim Cozart, whose character part of the witless wizard, Zauberfinger, was demanding; and Kathy Martin, who stood out in the role of Gretta, one of the handmaidens.

Andrews as King Ludwig delighted the kids with his flourishes and tirades, and Cozart gave his all. He has a bump on the back of his head to prove it.

May 24, 2001

Black belt teaches self defense: "If you can't stand, you can't fight," said Geoff Spohn.

Spohn, a black belt, has been practicing martial arts for 19 years. After reading an email of what rapists look for in a potential target, Spohn felt compelled to teach a women's self defense class free of charge for six weeks. The class began April 26 and is on Thursday nights at 7:30 p.m. in the basement of the United Methodist Church in Allegan.

Spohn provides instruction on how to immobilize an attacker in three blows or less. In his first class, Spohn shared the information he learned from an email. According to Spohn, rapists "are looking for an easy target." A woman on a cell phone or searching through her purse would be caught off guard.

"Always be aware of your surroundings," said Spohn.

With a "hiya" Jackie Webber kicked a target held by Spohn, whose first class ranged from basic stances to the useful moves. (Photo by Janelle Jackson)

He also shared that hairstyles that are easy to grab appeal to attackers. Any clothing that is easy to cut off, like overalls, are a prime focus because the rapist will often carry a pair of scissors.

Spohn said that according to a statistic, the number one place for an attack is in a parking lot or garage and the second likely spot is in a public restroom. Most of these crimes occur from 5 to 8:30 a.m., "just the time people are leaving for work," said Spohn.

Another helpful hint he offered was that if a woman is in a dangerous situation, she should yell "fire" or "call 9-1-1" because it is likely to get more attention he says than "help."

May 27, 2021

Allegan Fair back on with full slate: The Allegan County Fair is a GO! With the lifting of regulations on outdoor activities by the State of Michigan, the Allegan County Fair announced that it would be back Sept. 10-18, 2021 with a full slate of shows on the Grandstand plus Midway entertainment.

The cancellation of the 2020 Allegan County Fair due to COVID-19 lockdowns and regulations was only the second time in its 168 year history. The only other time was at the beginning of World War II.

The lack of a showcase for 4-H and Open Class projects disappointed a wide range of talented youth and adult exhibitors in 2020, but they are eager to get back in the game for 2021.

This September, the Fair expects to regain its position as the largest County Fair in the Midwest. The 10 days will include the traditional Rodeo Night, Truck and Tractor Pull, and Demolition Derby Championship. Add to these the Unique Motor Sports Off-Road Demolition Derby and the Fair Parade.

Jeff Dunham will open the Grandstand shows with "Seriously!?" and additional shows will be added now that contracts are being finalized.

Thus far, the lineup of Allegan County Fair Events is:

Sept. 10: Jeff Dunham "Seriously!?"

Sept. 12: Unique Motor Sports Off Road Demo Derby

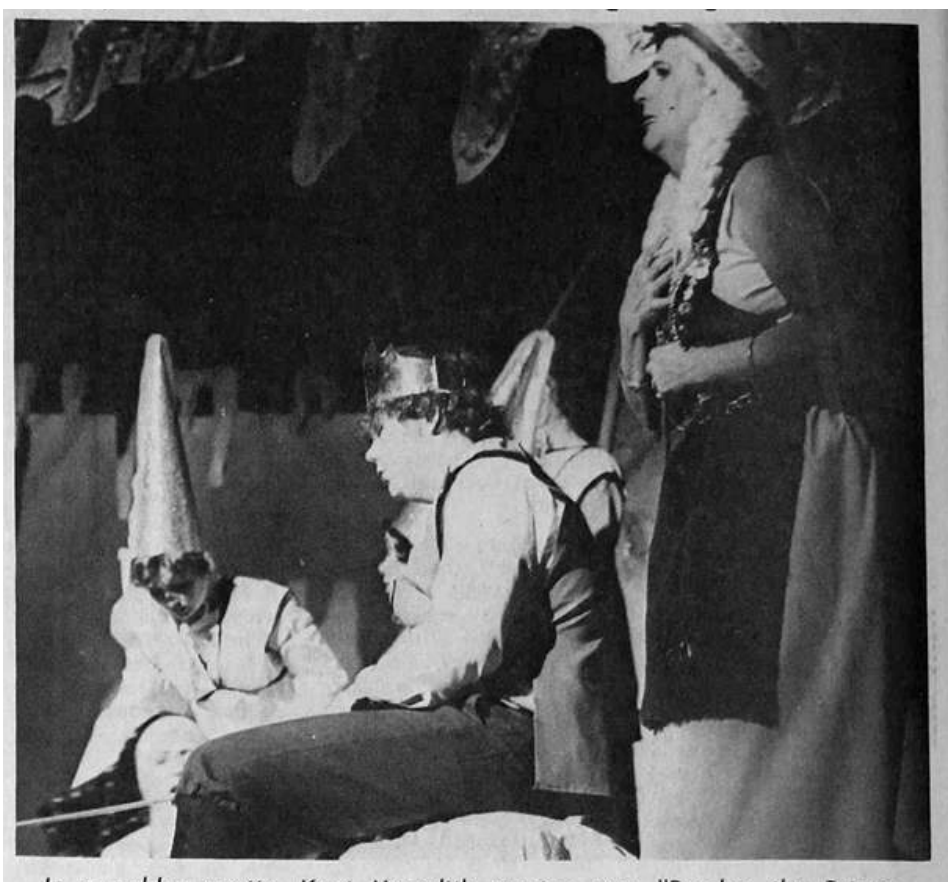
Sept. 13: Fair Parade

Sept. 14: Flying Star Rodeo

Sept. 15: NTPA Truck and Tractor Pulls

Sept. 18: Unique Motor Sports State Championship Demo Derby

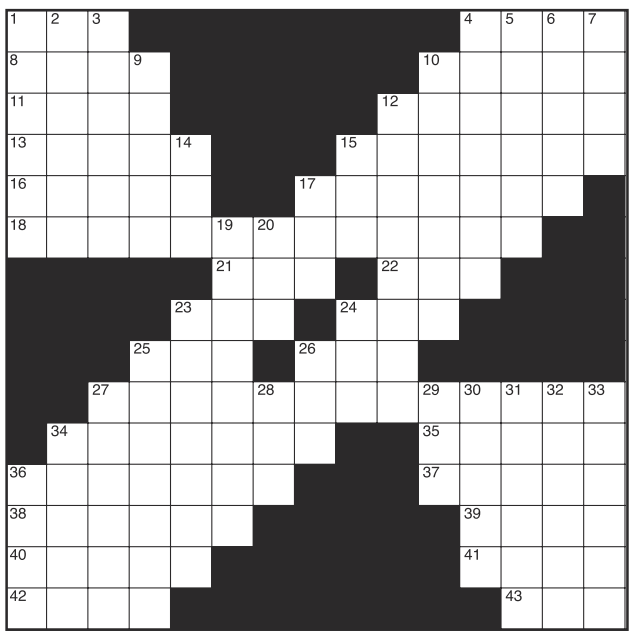
—Compiled by Jason Wesseldyk



In a golden grotto, Kent Meredith, center, was "Bracko, the Prince Frog," with a head-cold Friday and Saturday in the Allegan Community Players' hit show for "Children and bright adults." Kathy Martin, left, was Gretta, and Leah VanOrder, right, was the Valkyrie.

Jerry Richlich photo

CROSSWORD



CLUES ACROSS

1. Government lawyers
4. The back of a person's neck
8. Mild yellow Dutch cheese
10. In a less flashy way
11. Living room piece
12. Shepherd dog
13. A citizen of Iran
15. Moved slowly
16. Small finch
17. Previously
18. What a kid does on Halloween
21. Monetary unit
22. Using dry humor
23. Ocean
24. Greek goddess of the dawn
25. Not close
26. NHL legend Bobby
27. A ballplayer would love to do this
34. Charity
35. City in Finland
36. Loomed over
37. Vaccine developer
38. Avoids capture
39. We all need it
40. Openwork fabrics
41. Get away
42. Something you might hit
43. Soviet Socialist Republic

CLUES DOWN

1. Abstain from
2. Admirer
3. Expedition to observe animals
4. Act that is legally void
5. WW2 combatants
6. A tool
7. Looked at
9. Showing wild excitement
10. Banknotes
12. Tired
14. Printers need it
15. Women's patriotic group
17. When you anticipate getting somewhere
19. Functions
20. Breed of sheep
23. Mocking pieces
24. A major division of geological time
25. Andiron
26. Many not ands
27. Cuban city
28. He voiced 'Olaf'
29. Criticize
30. 'Thundercats' character
31. Markings
32. Gets up
33. MLB lefty reliever A.J.
34. An assembly of witches
36. High energy lasers (abbr.)

■ see **Solution**, Page B7

DEATHS

April 23, 2026

DIXIE ANN CONKLIN, 83, HOLLAND

April 26, 2026

CARL EDWARD BUCK, 83, Gun Plain Twp.

April 30, 2026

EDWARD GERALD ZACK, 81, Allegan Twp.

May 1, 2026

KAREN LEE KIRKLAND, 82, Heath Twp.

CYNTHIA GRACE RAWSON, 86, Lee Twp.

MELISSA JEAN NABORS, 46, Valley Twp.

SCOTT ALLEN BIELBY, 67, Holland

May 2, 2026

PATSY MARION WHITCHURCH, 99, Leighton Twp.

JEFFREY LEE WESSELDYK, 66, Laketown Twp.

May 3, 2026

FREDERIC ROBERT SCHUBERT JR, 86, Allegan

TIMOTHY TAYLOR, 64, Plainwell

May 5, 2026

JOHN MICHAEL KILLILEA, 89, Holland

TIMOTHY RAYMOND DOUGLAS, 55, Allegan

May 6, 2026

KAM CHUN CHUI, 64, Otsego Twp.

May 7, 2026

HENRY ROBERT WILLIAMS JR, 83, Holland

ROBERT LEE LOWE, 76, Allegan

May 8, 2026

DEBORAH KAY GODERRE, 70, Watson Twp.

MARRIAGES

The following people applied for a marriage license between May 5 and May 13:

AMBER MARIE BUSKARD, Martin, and **TYLER HENRY SANDS**, Martin

STEPHANIE MARIE ARNDT, Wayland, and **ROBERT JOHN CALKINS**, Wayland

KRISTI LYNN LENARD, Dorr, and **TAYLOR JAMES VANSTEE**, Dorr

RILEY JAMES BROWER, Dorr, and **MARISSA ANNE VANDERKAMP**, Hamilton

ANGELA SUE VANVOLKINBURG, Wayland, and **GREGORY LEE VANRHEE**, Wayland

CHRISTOPHER JAMES DARLING, Fennville, and **KARA MARIE KURCZESKI**, Fennville

LOGAN VICTORIA WRIGHT, Allegan, and **THOMAS CHARLES WALKER**, Allegan

HOLLI NICOLE THEREASA SWANN, Allegan, and **CHANCE LOGAN KELLUM**, Grand Haven

DEREK ASHER ELYEA, Allegan, and **HALEY ALEXIS FOSTER**, Allegan

DAVIDA ALEISHA WILSON, Allegan, and **MATTHEW DOUGLAS HILLS**, Allegan

JIANG DONG, WENATCHEE, WA, and **WENHUA WU**, Plainwell

CHRISTOPHER MARK RYDER, Fennville, and **RYAN DAVID PICKLE**, Fennville

BRANDON DAVID ESHUIS, Otsego, and **PAIGE STEPHANIE TAYLOR**, Zeeland

ZACHARY ALEXANDER VANSWEDEN, Plainwell, and **NAOMI SHARON BAYON**, Portage

KATELYN LEE MOREHOUSE, Allegan, and **NOAH DOUGLAS GALLANDT**, Kalamazoo

CAROLINA GARCIA TORRES, Wayland, and **LUIS SECUNDINO MORALES**, Wayland

DON D NEDERHOOD, Wayland, and **JUDITH LYNN MEULENBERG**, Byron Center

MICHELLE ANN VISSER, Hamilton, and **LANCE WILLIAM WRIGHT**, Hamilton

JACKSON WAYNE WEBER, Hamilton, and **AUBREY ADAIR VANDENBERG**, Holland

SUDOKU

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

7			8			5		
	2		7		9			
					5			
	8			9		7		3
5	3			1				
					6			
9	5			6	4	3		7
	6						8	
			1	7			6	

(See Solution Page B7)

Public Notices

Allegan County Circuit Court Case No. 25-70574-CH NOTICE OF JUDICIAL SALE The property described below shall be sold at public auction, by an authorized sheriff/deputy sheriff or county clerk/deputy county clerk, to the highest bidder, at the Circuit Court for the County of Allegan on the 4th of June, 2026 at 9:00 am, local time. On said day at said time, the following described property shall be sold: property located in the City of Fennville, County of Allegan, State of Michigan, particularly described as Part of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 5, Town 2 North, Range 15 West, City of Fennville, Allegan County, Michigan, being described as: Commencing at the Southeast corner of Lot 18, Capen's Addition; thence South 298.00 feet to the point of beginning of the parcel of land herein described; thence East 198.00 feet; thence South 100.00 feet; thence West 198.00 feet; thence North 100.00 feet to the point of beginning, Allegan County Records. More commonly known as: 320 S Maple St, Fennville, MI 49408 This notice is from a debt collector. Date of Notice: 4/16/2026 Trott Law, P.C.
1590632
(04-16)(05-21)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on June 4, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Douglas Miller, an unmarried man

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Center, LLC

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): None

Date of Mortgage: February 2, 2017

Date of Mortgage Recording: March 3, 2017

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $25,237.09

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in City of Allegan, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Lots 19 and 20 of West Sunset Acres Plat, according to the recorded Plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 7 of Plats on Page 2.

Common street address (if any): 529 Sherman St, Allegan, MI 49010-1452

The redemption period shall be 1 year from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a.

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.
Date of notice: April 30, 2026
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1591990
(04-30)(05-21)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on June 4, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Lisa Ti Elzinga, an unmarried woman

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Freedom Mortgage Corporation

Date of Mortgage: December 11, 2020

Date of Mortgage Recording: December 22, 2020

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $54,003.27

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in City of Plainwell, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Lots 5 and 6 of Sherwood's Addition to the Village (now city) of Plainwell, as recorded in Liber 44 on Page 523, Less the North 2 Rods and the East 50 feet therefrom.

Common street address (if any): 520 N Sherwood Ave, Plainwell, MI 49080-1333

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.
Date of notice: April 30, 2026
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1591560
(04-30)(05-21)

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE SALE Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Matthew M. Gallas, single man, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Vandyk Mortgage Corporation dated August 31, 2005 and recorded October 25, 2005 in Liber 2907, Page 724, Allegan County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by MidFirst Bank by assignment. In pursuance and by virtue of a Judgment of Foreclosure entered for Plaintiff, MidFirst Bank against Defendant, Matthew M. Gallas in Case No. 2025-0000070973-CH of the Allegan County Circuit Court, the below premises shall be foreclosed and sold by public auction. Said Judgment of Foreclosure was entered on the 6th day of April, 2026, wherein there is claimed to be due on said date the sum of Eighty-Two Thousand Six Hundred Seventeen Dollars and Fifty Cents ($82,617.50), plus sums advanced for taxes, insurance and other fees incurred and allowed by said mortgage. Under the Judgment of Foreclosure and related statutes, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by sale of the mortgage premises pursuant to the Judgment of Foreclosure and that the sale shall be at public auction to the highest bidder, at public venue, at the place of holding the circuit court within Allegan County, on the 18th day of June, 2026 at 9:00 AM, Eastern Standard Time, the following described property, viz: All certain piece or parcel of land situated in the Township of Monterey, County of Allegan and State of Michigan, described as follows: The South 330 feet of the West 50 feet of the East 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 8, Town 3 North, Range 13 West. Also the West 200 feet of the North 353 feet of the South 683 feet of the East 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 8, Town 3 North, Range 13 West, Monterey Township, Allegan County, Michigan. Commonly Known As: 3373 132nd Ave, Hopkins, MI, 49328 Tax ID: 16-008-009-21 This property may be redeemed during the six (6) months following the sale. Dated: April 21, 2026 Orlans Law Group PLLC /s/Sogol I. Plagany Attorneys for Plaintiff Firm Name: Orlans Law Group PLLC Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084 Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400 File No. 25-011533
(04-30)(06-04)

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in ALLEGAN County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on June 4, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE INFORMATION: Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Christine Quigley, a single woman, whose address is 130 Edsell Street, Otsego, Michigan 49078, as original Mortgagors, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems Inc., as Nominee for Rocket Mortgage, LLC, f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC, being a mortgage dated December 29, 2021, and recorded on January 4, 2022 in Liber 4715 Page 328, Allegan County Records, State of Michigan and then assigned to Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC, as assignee as documented by an assignment recorded in Allegan County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED THIRTY-SIX AND 68/100 DOLLARS ($121,836.68). Said premises are situated in the City of Otsego, County of Allegan, State of Michigan, and are described as: THAT PART OF LOT 1 BLOCK 3 OF PETERS ADDITION DESCRIBED AS: COMMENCING AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SAID LOT 1, THENCE EASTERLY ON THE NORTH LINE OF SAID LOT 98.5 FEET, THENCE SOUTHWESTERLY 84.55 FEET TO A POINT ON THE EASTERLY LINE OF SAID EDSELL STREET, BEING 50.54 FEET SOUTHEASTERLY OF SAID NORTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 1, THENCE NORTHWESTERLY ON EASTERLY LINE OF EDSELL STREET 50.54 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING. ALSO COMMENCING AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 1, BLOCK 3, THENCE NORTHERLY ALONG EDSELL STREET 170 FEET, THENCE SOUTHEASTERLY TO A POINT ON THE NORTH LINE OF SAID LOT 1, 98.5 FEET EASTERLY OF PLACE OF BEGINNING, THENCE WESTERLY TO PLACE OF BEGINNING. ALSO: COMMENCING AT A POINT SOUTH 86 DEGREES 14 MINUTES EAST 98.5 FEET FROM NORTHERLY CORNER OF LOT 1, BLOCK 3, PETERS ADDITION, THENCE NORTH 40 DEGREES 27 MINUTES 36 SECONDS WEST 147 FEET, THENCE NORTH 84 DEGREES EAST TO KALAMAZOO RIVER, THENCE SOUTHERLY ALONG SAID RIVER TO A POINT NORTH 49 DEGREES 32 MINUTES 24 SECONDS EAST OF THE PLACE OF BEGINNING, THENCE SOUTH 49 DEGREES 32 MINUTES 34 SECONDS WEST TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING. Street Address: 130 Edsell Street, Otsego, Michigan 49078 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA § 600.3241a in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of the sale. If the property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCLA § 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: IF YOU ARE A MILITARY SERVICE MEMBER ON ACTIVE DUTY, IF YOUR PERIOD OF ACTIVE DUTY HAS CONCLUDED LESS THAN 90 DAYS AGO, OR IF YOU HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO ACTIVE DUTY, PLEASE CONTACT THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PARTY FORECLOSING THE MORTGAGE AT THE TELEPHONE NUMBER STATED IN THIS NOTICE. Dated: April 30, 2026 For more information, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing: Robert A. Blumberg (P87490) Johnson, Blumberg & Associates LLC 30 North LaSalle St., Suite 3650 Chicago, Illinois, 60602 312.541.9710 - Phone 312.541.9711 - Fax File No.: MI 26 7182
(04-30)(05-21)

NOTICE OF ACTION AS TO ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, OR ASSIGNEES OF CONNIE L. GRIMM AND KEVIN R. GRIMM PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that there is presently pending in the Allegan County Circuit Court, State of Michigan, an action between Plaintiff, US Bank Trust Company, N.A. not in its individual capacity but solely as Indenture Trustee of CIM Trust 2023R2 and Defendants Connie L. Grimm, Kevin R. Grimm, Foundation Finance Company, and any and all unknown claimants, owners, heirs, devisees or assignees of Connie L. Grimm and Kevin R. Grimm; Case No. 26-71881-CH, involving the property commonly known as: 420 105th Ave, Plainwell, MI 49080. You are being sued by Plaintiff in an action brought pursuant to MCL 600.3101. You must file your answer or take other action permitted by law in the Allegan County Circuit Court, 113 Chestnut Ave, Allegan MI 49010 within twenty-eight (28) days after the date of this notice. You may contact and must serve a copy of any answer on Josie Lewis (P69317) at Codilis & Moody, P.C. at 30800 Telegraph Rd, Suite 1703, Bingham Famrs, MI 48025. Failure to answer within the time frame by law may result in a default judgment being entered against your interests in the Property. (File/Reference No.: 23-26-00041)
(05-07)(05-21)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on June 4, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Mathew W Prins and Melissa Prins, Husband and Wife

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Select Portfolio Servicing, Inc.

Date of Mortgage: January 5, 2015

Date of Mortgage Recording: January 8, 2015

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $110,758.91

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Heath, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Commencing At A Point On The West Line Of P.M. Railroad Right Of Way, 52 Rods And 13 Feet South From North Township Line, Thence West 13 Rods And 14 Feet; Thence North 6 Rods And 13 Feet; Thence East To West Line Of Said P.M. Railroad Right Of Way, Thence Southeasterly Along The West Line Of Said Railroad Right Of Way To Place Of Beginning, Being Part Of The Northwest 1/4 Of Section 6, Town 3 North, Range 14 West. Also, Commencing 759 Feet South Of The North Section And Township Line And The Westerly Line Of P.M. Railway, Thence West To A Point 285 Feet West Of The North And South 1/4 Line Of Section 6, Town 3 North, Range 14 West, Thence North 33 Feet; Thence East To The Westerly Line Of Said Pere Marquette Railway Right Of Way; Thence Southeasterly Along Said Line To Place Of Beginning, All In The Northwest 1/4 Of Section 6, Town 3 North, Range 14 West. Subject To Driveway Easement Set Forth In Deed Recorded In Liber 407, Page 81. Together With Grant Of Easement For Ingress And Egress As Recorded In Liber 981 On Page 173.

Common street address (if any): 3570 Trackside Dr, Hamilton, MI 49419-9029

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in

CITY OF FENNVILLE

PUBLIC NOTICE PUBLIC HEARING ON 2026-27 PROPOSED BUDGET
2026-27 PROPOSED BUDGET AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

Pursuant to City Charter Section 6.23, Notice is hereby given that a copy of the Proposed Budget for the City of Fennville for the fiscal period July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027, will be on file and available for inspection beginning on June 1, 2026. On and after that date, the Proposed Budget will be available at the City web site: www.fennville.gov/finances and in the office of the City Clerk located at City Hall, 125 S. Maple Street, Fennville, MI 49408 during regular business hours, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Prior to adoption, a Public Hearing on the Proposed Budget will be held by the City Commission on Monday, June 1st, 2026 at 6:00 p.m, in City Hall.

"THE PROPERTY TAX MILLAGE RATE PROPOSED TO BE LEVIED TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSED BUDGET WILL BE A SUBJECT OF THIS HEARING."

The June 1, 2026 Public Hearing on the Budget Proposal is also held to comply with the provisions of the following Public Acts: Section 2 of Act No. 43 of the Second Extra Session of 1963, Section 141.412 of MCL. Section 14 of Act No. 2, Public Acts of 1968, as amended, the Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act.

Community members are encouraged to inspect the Proposed Budget and to attend the Public Hearing to provide comment. If additional information is desired, please contact the City Office at 269-561-8321. Adoption of the budget will be considered at the regular City Commission meeting, June 15, 2026, after the public hearing.

Samuel Jacobs
City Clerk

NOTICE

CITY OF WAYLAND, MICHIGAN
Ordinance No. 286

An ordinance to amend the Zoning Map of the Wayland Zoning Ordinance, being Chapter 20 of the Wayland City Code, to rezone a certain parcel of land in the City from R-A/LDR Low Density Residential to R-1 Single Family Residential.

WHEREAS, a request has been received to rezone certain property located at 910 133rd Avenue in the City of Wayland from R-A/LDR Low Density Residential to R-1 Single Family Residential, and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission has held a public hearing on the request, reviewed the request and has recommended that the property be rezoned to R-1, and

WHEREAS, the City Council, upon the recommendation of the Planning Commission, determines it to be in the best interest of the City to rezone the property.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY OF WAYLAND HEREBY ORDAINS:

Section 1. The Zoning Ordinance, Ordinance No. 123, as amended, being Chapter 20 of the Wayland City Code, is hereby amended by changing the Zoning Map incorporated by reference into the Zoning Ordinance in Section 20-37 to change the zoning district of the following- described property in the City of Wayland from R-A/LDR Low Density Residential to R-1 Single Family Residential: The portion of the parcel located at 910 133rd Avenue that lies within the City of Wayland, Allegan County, Michigan, identified as Permanent Parcel Number 56-008-010-00.

Section 2. The City Clerk is hereby directed to change the official Zoning Map to reflect the change described in Section 1 above.

Section 3. All other ordinances or portions of ordinances inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section 4. This Ordinance shall be published in the Allegan County News within fifteen (15) days of its adoption, and shall become effective ten (10) days after the date of such publication.

Section 5. A copy of this Ordinance is available for purchase or inspection during regular business hours at the City Clerk's Office, Wayland City Hall, 103 South Main Street, Wayland, MI 49348.

Signed:
Mayor, Jennifer Antel
City Clerk, Amanda Rodriguez

OVERISEL TOWNSHIP

ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN

ORDINANCE NO. _____
ADOPTED ___/____/2026
EFFECTIVE Eight days after publication after adoption

OVERISEL TOWNSHIP ZONING ORDINANCE

A Zoning Ordinance adopted pursuant to PA 110 of 2006, as amended (known and cited as the "Michigan Zoning Enabling Act"), including the Zoning Map as incorporated therein and Act 33 of 2008, as amended (known and cited as the "Michigan Planning Enabling Act) for the regulation of land development and the establishment of zoning classification districts within the Township's zoning jurisdiction to regulate the use of land and structures to meet the needs of its citizens for food, fiber, energy, and other natural resources, places of residence, recreation, industry, trade, service, and other uses of land, to ensure that use of the land is situated in appropriate locations and relationships, to limit the inappropriate overcrowding of land and congestion of population, transportation systems, and other public facilities, to facilitate adequate and efficient provision for transportation systems, sewage disposal, water, energy, education, recreation, and other public service and facility requirements, and to promote public health, safety, and welfare.

OVERISEL TOWNSHIP
ALLGEAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN
ORDAINS:

SECTION 1
TOWNSHIP ZONING ORDINANCE
This section adopts a new Township Zoning Ordinance, which is attached and incorporated herein.

SECTION 2
SEVERABILITY
Should any provision or part of the within Ordinance be declared by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unenforceable, the same shall not affect the enforceability of the balance of this Ordinance which shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 3
REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES
All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed. This ordinance repeals and replaces the prior Overisel Township Zoning Ordinance.

SECTION 4
SAVINGS CLAUSE
The amendment or repeal by this ordinance or ordinance provision shall have no effect upon prosecutions commenced prior to the effective date of this ordinance or prosecutions based upon actions taken by any person prior to the effective date of this ordinance. Those prosecutions shall be conducted under the ordinance or ordinance provisions in effect prior to the effective date of this ordinance.

SECTION 5
EFFECTIVE DATE
This Ordinance shall take effect eight days following publication after adoption.

Paula Scholten, Clerk
Overisel Township

Public Notices

accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.
Date of notice: May 7, 2026
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1592627
(05-07)(05-28)

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in ALLEGAN County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on June 4, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE INFORMATION: Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Lloyd R. Foster, III, Jennifer L. Foster formally known as Jennifer L. Stratton, husband and wife, whose address is 1198 122nd Avenue, Martin, Michigan 49070, as original Mortgagors, to Green Tree Financial Servicing Corporation, being a mortgage dated June 21, 1999, and recorded on July 21, 1999 in Liber 1873 Page 821, Allegan County Records, State of Michigan and then assigned to U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee, for Manufactured Housing Contract Senior/Subordinate Pass-Through Certificate Trust 1999-6, as assignee as documented by an assignment dated March 17, 2025 and recorded on March 17, 2025 in Liber 5017 Page 759, Allegan County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of FORTY THOUSAND SEVEN AND 96/100 DOLLARS ($40,007.96). Said premises are situated in the Township of Martin, County of Allegan, State of Michigan, and are described as: ALL THAT PART OF SECTIONS 6 AND 7, TOWN 2 NORTH, RANGE 11 WEST, MARTIN TOWNSHIP, ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN, DESCRIBED AS: BEGINNING AT THE NORTH-EAST CORNER OF SECTION 12, TOWN 2 NORTH, RANGE 12 WEST, WATSON TOWNSHIP, ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THENCE SOUTH 80 RODS, MORE OR LESS, TO THE NORTH 1/8 LINE OF SAID SECTION 7, THENCE EAST 19 1/4 RODS, THENCE NORTH TO THE CENTER OF THE EAST AND WEST HIGHWAY, THENCE WEST ALONG THE CENTER OF SAID HIGHWAY TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, WHICH LIES EASTERLY OF A LINE 150 FEET EASTERLY OF (MEASURED AT RIGHT ANGLES) AND PARALLEL TO A LINE DESCRIBED AS: BEGINNING AT A POINT WHICH IS NORTH 85 DEGREES 45'50" EAST A DISTANCE OF 88.52 FEET AND NORTH 3 DEGREES 35'30" WEST A DISTANCE OF 200 FEET FROM THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SAID SECTION 7, THENCE SOUTH 3 DEGREES 35'30" EAST A DISTANCE OF 2000 FEET TO A POINT OF ENDING. Street Address: 1198 122nd Avenue, Martin, Michigan 49070 The redemption period shall be 12 months from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA § 600.3241a in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of the sale. If the property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCLA § 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: IF YOU ARE A MILITARY SERVICE MEMBER ON ACTIVE DUTY, IF YOUR PERIOD OF ACTIVE DUTY HAS CONCLUDED LESS THAN 90 DAYS AGO, OR IF YOU HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO ACTIVE DUTY, PLEASE CONTACT THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PARTY FORECLOSING THE MORTGAGE AT THE TELEPHONE NUMBER STATED IN THIS NOTICE. Dated: May 7, 2026 For more information, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing: Robert A. Blumberg (P87490) Johnson, Blumberg & Associates LLC 30 North LaSalle St., Suite 3650 Chicago, Illinois, 60602 312.541.9710 - Phone 312.541.9711 - Fax File No.: MI 26 7196

(05-07)(05-28)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on June 4, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Brandon Lee Stevenson, a single man

Original Mortgagee: Lake Michigan Credit Union

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): None

Date of Mortgage: August 11, 2021

Date of Mortgage Recording: August 18, 2021

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $62,678.16

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Wayland, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Commencing at a point 420 feet North of the Section Line of the West side of the following described property for a point of beginning. The East 20 acres of the South 44 acres of the Southwest 1/4 of the Southwest fractional 1/4 of Section 30, Town 3 North, Range 11 West, except that part which lies West of a line 125 feet Easterly of, measured at right angles, and parallel to the survey line of Highway US-131; thence East 210 feet; thence South 420 feet; thence West to a point 125 feet Easterly of, measured at right angles, and parallel to the survey line of Highway US-131; thence Northwesterly along the East boundary line of US-131 to West line of property first described; thence North to point of beginning. Subject to right-of-way recorded at Liber 765, Pages 279 and 280.

Common street address (if any): 1165 126th Ave, Shelbyville, MI 49344-9521

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.
Date of notice: May 7, 2026
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1592473
(05-07)(05-28)

STATE OF MICHIGAN
ALLEGAN COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT
113 Chestnut St., Allegan, MI 49010
NOTICE TO HEARING

TO: Birth Parents of a baby born and surrendered on April 3, 2026, at Bronson Battle Creek Hospital, located in Battle Creek, Calhoun County, Michigan

Take notice that on June 10, 2026, at 4:00pm, a hearing will be held on the Petition to Accept Release and Terminate Rights to Surrendered Newborn Child, made under the Safe Delivery of Newborns Act (MCL 712.1-MCL 712.20) and will terminate your parental rights. The law provides that you should be notified of this hearing by publication only. You will not receive personal service. Failure to attend this hearing will constitute a denial of interest in the minor and waiver of notice of any and all subsequent hearings. You, as a parent, may call Grant Me Hope, located at 930 Interchange Drive, Holland, MI 49423, at 616-403-5657 for more information.

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
ALLEGAN COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
CASE NO. 26-66078- and JUDGE
Court address 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010
Court telephone no.(269) 673-0250
Estate of Ronald H. DeVries Date of Birth:*02/25/1952
TO ALL CREDITORS: **

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Ronald H. DeVries, died 01/14/2.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Ethel Joslin, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Jason W. Wesseling 85634
6439 28th Ave.
Hudsonville, MI 49426
616-669-8185
Ethel Joslin
951 129th Ave.
Shelbyville, MI 49344 616-403-3686

STATE OF MICHIGAN
ALLEGAN COUNTY
48th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT - FAMILY DIVISION
PUBLICATION OF HEARING
NOTICE TO PUTATIVE FATHER
CASENO. 26-71599-NA
IN THE MATTER OF: ZARON HOLDER

TAKE NOTICE:

A petition has been filed with this court regarding the following minor(s):

ZARON HOLDER who was born on 1/20/2026 at Grand Rapids, Michigan

RONALDO VILLARREAL

ANY UNKNOWN PUTATIVE FATHER

The mother of the minor(s) is KIANNA IVY HOLDER . If you are or may be the natural father, you should appear at 113 CHESTNUT ST ALLEGAN MI 49010 on JULY 30, 2026 at 9:00AM to state any interest you may have in the minor(s).

Failure to appear atthis hearing is a denial of interest inthe minor(s), waiver of notice for all subsequent hearings, and a waiver of a right to appointment of an attorney. Failure to appear at this hearing COULD RESULT IN PERMANENT TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS.

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF Allegan
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Trust

The Thelen Family Revocable Trust #1 U/A/D January 11, 2008 Date of birth: 03-17-1939

TO ALL CREDITORS: *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, George A. Thelen , who lived at 3543 Baseline Road, Gobles, MI 49055 died 02-15-2026 .Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the Trust will be forever barred unless presented to

George Thelen Jr. – Successor Trustee, 5803 S. Mulligan, Chicago, IL 60638 within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

5-18-2026
Christopher Antkoviak P59448
416 Hubbard Street
Allegan, MI 49010
269-673-8468
George Thelen Jr.
5803 S. Mulligan
Chicago, IL 60638
708-269-1095

ALLEGAN COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Trust

In the matter of the Mark Allen VanAvery and Kathy Jo VanAvery Revocable Trust established April 7, 2022

Kathy Jo VanAvery was the surviving grantor of the Trust and her date of birth was October 2, 1950.

TO ALL CREDITORS: **

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Kathy Jo VanAvery, died April 19, 2026.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the trust will be forever barred unless presented to Christopher Michael Shirey, Trustee, within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Jessica Arends P75919
321 Settlers Road
Holland, MI 49423
616-392-1821
Christopher Michael Shirey
3231 50th Street
Hamilton, MI_498419
616-566-1436

TO ALL PERSONS, including: (specify non-custodial parent's name here, if applicable)

whose address is unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:

TAKE NOTICE: Grayson Jay Schouw has filed a petition for name change.

A name change hearing will be held on Tuesday, July 7, 2026 at 9:00am at FAMILY COURT COURTROOM before Judge Hon. Jolene Clearwater P74848 , to change the name of: Grayson Jay Schouw to Grayson Jay Rienstra

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STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF ALLEGAN
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
FILE NO. 26-66126-DE
Estate of William R. VanderWerf a/k/a William Richard VanderWerf, Deceased
Date of Birth: 06/05/1933

NOTICE TO ALL CREDITORS: The decedent, William Richard VanderWerf, died on 12/27/2025.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Lisa Ricord, named personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut St. Allegan, MI 49010 and the named personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Date:
Michael J. Becker (P81132)
Orton, Tooman, Hale, McKown & Kiel, P.C.
314 Trowbridge Street, P.O. Box 239
Allegan, MI 49010-0239
(269) 673-2136
Lisa Ricord, Personal Representative
143 Hanlon Ct.
Wayland, MI 49348
(269) 225-9256

ROBERTSON, ANSCHUTZ, SCHNEID, CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC, MAY BE DEEMED A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT 13010 Morris Road, Suite 450, Alpharetta, GA 30004 ph:470-321-7112 Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in ALLEGAN County, starting promptly at 9:00 A.M. on June 18, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information: Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): WILLIAM R. GHRAMES. Default has been made in the conditions of a Mortgage made by WILLIAM R. GHRAMES to FIFTH THIRD MORTGAGE - MI, LLC, original Mortgagee, for a mortgage dated January 18, 2002, and recorded on February 13, 2002, in Liber 21921 Page 74 of the Allegan County Register of Deeds. Said mortgage was assigned through mesne assignments to Select Portfolio Servicing, Inc., as documented by an assignment dated June 24, 2025, and recorded on July 9, 2025, in Liber 5048 Page 651 in the ALLEGAN County Register of Deeds, on which Mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of $64,379.89. Under the power of sale contained in said Mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said Mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the place of holding the Circuit Court within ALLEGAN County, Michigan on June 18, 2026 at 9:00 A.M. Said premises are located in the city of ALLEGAN in ALLEGAN County, Michigan and are described as: THE EAST 183 FEET OF A PARCEL OF LAND DESCRIBED AS 263 FEET EAST AND WEST AND 417 FEET NORTH AND SOUTH IN THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 35, TOWN 2 NORTH, RANGE 13 WEST. Property Address: 2635 113TH AVE., ALLEGAN, MI 49010 Tax ID No. 01-035-008-10 The redemption period shall be Six (6) months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. If this property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the Mortgage sale or to the Mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. SELECT PORTFOLIO SERVICING, INC. Mortgagee/Assignee May 21,2026 ROBERTSON, ANSCHUTZ, SCHNEID, CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC Attorney for Mortgagee/Assignee 13010 Morris Road, Suite 450 Alpharetta, GA 30004 Telephone: 470-321-7112 Facsimile: 404-393-1425 Service Email: MIFCL-Team@raslg.com

(05-21)(06-11)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on July 2, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Lisa Hale and Shane Hale, wife and husband

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Freedom Mortgage Corporation

Date of Mortgage: February 16, 2022

Date of Mortgage Recording: March 1, 2022

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $204,417.74

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Martin, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Commencing 586.74 feet North of the Southeast corner of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 30, Town 2 North, Range 11 West,

as a point of beginning, thence West 12 rods, thence North 70 feet, thence East 12 rods, thence South 70 feet to the place

of beginning.

Common street address (if any): 1520 10th St, Martin, MI 49070-9728

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.
Date of notice: May 21, 2026
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1593770
(05-21)(06-11)

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
ALLEGAN COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
CASE NO. 26-66215-DE and JUDGE
Court address 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010
Court telephone no.(269) 673-0250
Estate of Mary M. Tank Date of Birth:*08/31/1969
TO ALL CREDITORS: **

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Mary M. Tank, died 03/07/2026 .

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Salvator A. Gomez Jr., personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

5/12/2026
James M. McEwen P53923
550 Lincoln Rd
Otsego, MI 49078
269-692-3665
Salvator Aaron Gomez Jr.
106 Parnassus Ave, Apt 11
San Francisco, CA 94117
269-720-2699

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
ALLEGAN COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
CASE NO. XXX and JUDGE
Court address 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010
Court telephone no.(269) 673-0250
Estate of Kay Helene Halbert-Nelson Date of Birth:*12-08-1947
TO ALL CREDITORS: **

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Kay Helene Halbert-Nelson , died 02-26-2026.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Alexandra Nelson, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

05-14-2026
Benjamin J. Herbert P70082
5830 Venture Park Drive
Kalamazoo, MI 49009
269-459-1432
Alexandra Nelson
636 Glenview Circle
Plainwell, MI 49080
269-680-9716

SUMMARY

Otsego Township
May 11, 2026

The regular meeting of the Otsego Township Board was held on Monday, May 11, 2026, at the Otsego Township Hall. The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM by Supervisor Gudith.

Members Present: Gudith, Colin, Lunarde-Alexander, Rose, Burns, Bumgart.
Members Absent: Moll.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approved minutes from the April 13 th regular meeting.

Approved bills in the amount of $120,246.48.

Approved the 19 th Street paving price increase of $56,766.

Adjourned the meeting at 9:27PM.

Submitted by:
Jen Colin, Otsego Township Clerk.

NOTICE

OF PUBLIC HEARING ON
REQUEST FOR SPECIAL USE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a public hearing at the Allegan Township Hall at 3037 118th Ave on June 4, 2026 at 7:00pm

To consider the request from John Schaendorf of Schaendorf Properties, LLC for a one day Special Use Permit for parcels 03-01-002-007-10 and 03-01-002-005-01, to have a Luke Bryan Farm Tour Concert on Sunday, September 20, 2026.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Allegan Township Planning Commission hereby specifically reserves the right to recommend and consider changes in the zoning ordinance other than as proposed herein. The public may appear at the public hearing in person or by counsel. Written comments may be submitted to :

Mr. Ted Heckman, Chairman
Allegan Township Planning Commission
3037 118th Ave. Allegan, MI 49010

NOTICE

Harmoni Towers LLC proposes to build a 199-foot monopole communications tower at the approx. vicinity of 24th Street, Otsego, Allegan County, MI, 49078. Lat: 42-30-0.3, Long: -85-46-39.9. Public comments regarding potential effects from this site on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: Trileaf Corp, Christopher Moore, c.moore@trileaf.com, 1515 Des Peres Road, Suite 200, St. Louis, MO 63131, 314-997-6111.

NOTICE

HEATH TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS
Hearing on Proposed 2026-20267 Budget
also
Regular Township Meeting

(The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of the hearing.)

At 7:00 P.M Monday, June 8, 2026
HEATH TOWNSHIP HALL 3440 Lincoln Rd, Hamilton, MI 49419

NorthStar Clean Energy

Allegan Solar, LLC
Notice of Intent to Construct Solar and Batter Energy Storage System Facility

NorthStar Clean Energy and Allegan Solar, LLC are proposing an approximately 106 MW ground-mounted solar energy system and a 50 MW battery energy storage system located within Hopkins and Monterey Townships in Allegan County, Michigan (Project).

This letter is to provide notice, pursuant to Section 223(1) of PA 233 of 2023 (MCL 460.1223(2)) of a public meeting. The meeting will be on Wednesday June 10th, 2026 at the Monterey United Methodist Church, from 5:30 – 7:30 pm. The address is 3022 130th Ave, Hopkins, Michigan 49328.

Individuals who are unable to attend the public meeting, but would like to submit written comments about the Project, can do so by writing a message online at https://northstarcleanenergy.com/contact/ under "Reason for Inquiry," commentors should select "Submit Project Feedback" or by sending a written letter to:

NorthStar Clean Energy c/o Allegan Solar
2373 Oak Valley Dr
Suite 150
Ann Arbor, MI 48103

The Project Site Plan can be accessed online at: https://northstarcleanenergy.com/allegan-solar/

Trek For Vets makes stop in Otsego during 500-mile Michigan journey

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

Trek For Vets, a 500-mile, 25-day journey across Michigan, made a stop at the Otsego Fire Department on Saturday, May 16. (Photo provided)

A statewide journey aimed at raising awareness for veteran mental health and isolation made a stop in Otsego over the weekend.

Trek For Vets, a 500-mile, 25-day journey across Michigan, stopped at the Otsego Fire Department on Saturday, May 16, where community members gathered to welcome participants and learn more about the mission behind the event.

According to the Otsego VFW Post 3030 Facebook page, the trek focuses on "raising awareness for veteran isolation, mental health struggles, and the importance of connection and community for those who served our country."

The post also stated that the organization's mission is to help veterans build a "tribe" of support and remind them "they are never alone."

Following the Otsego stop, Otsego VFW Post 3030 thanked Marine veteran Lawrence Miller of Trek For Vets for visiting the community during what it described as an "incredible 500 mile journey across Michigan."

"We appreciate you taking the time to visit with our community, share your mission, and help educate others about the importance of supporting veterans and bringing awareness to veteran mental health and isolation," the post said. "Your dedication to making sure no veteran feels alone is truly inspiring."

The trek began May 1 and will conclude May 25 at the Royal Oak Memorial Day Parade.

According to the Trek For Vets website, the event spans the entire state of Michigan and covers approximately 20 miles per day while traveling "via air, land, and sea" as a tribute to the United States Marine Corps reconnaissance community.

The route includes stops stretching from St. Ignace and Mackinac Island to Traverse City, Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, Lansing and several other Michigan communities before concluding in Royal Oak.

The Trek For Vets website states that organizers are committed to creating "trusted communication channels within the tactical community" while helping veterans move "from isolation to connection."

"These treks aren't just about the miles traveled," organizers said on the Trek For Vets website. "They're about the conversations had, the laughter shared, and the bonds built in places far from the noise of daily life.

"The Trek is not just about physical fitness—it's mental resilience, emotional support and the power of belonging."

According to the Trek For Vets website, organizers are also working to raise support through the symbolic sale of 500 cases of coffee — one for each mile of the journey.

Additional information about Trek For Vets can be found at trekforvets.com.

Public Notices

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF ALLEGAN
PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING
FILE NO. 2020-62325-GA
In the matter of Gregory Silliman
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including: Unknown children of ward's deceased daughter (Paula Silliman)
whose address(es) is/are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:
TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on June 8, 2026 At 3:30PM at 113 Chestnut St, Allegan, MI 49010 before Judge Jolene Clearwater P74848 for the following purpose:
PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN OF INCAPACITATED INDIVIDUAL
Linda Vaught P54634
One Woodward Ave, Ste. 2400
Detroit, MI 48226 313-965-2862
Jessica Marr
414 State St
Belding, MI 48809 616-794-0460

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement
Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on June 18, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:
Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Joshua Prihoda, unmarried
Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns
Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Rocket Mortgage, LLC successor by merger to Nationstar Mortgage LLC
Date of Mortgage: March 7, 2022
Date of Mortgage Recording: March 22, 2022
Amount claimed due on date of notice: $203,525.39
Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Charter Township of Gunplain, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: A parcel of land in the West 1/2 of the East 1/2 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 36,
commencing at the place of intersection of the Northerly line of Highway M-89 as relocated
with the West 1/8 line of said Section; thence South 74 degrees 37 minutes 40 seconds East along the Northerly line of Highway M-89 as relocated 324.4 feet to the place of beginning of this description; thence
North 00 degrees 09 minutes 40 seconds West 141.72 feet; thence South 83 degrees 43 minutes East 252.14 feet; thence South 00 degrees 09 minutes 40 seconds
East 183.06 feet to Northerly line of Highway M-89 as relocated; thence Northwesterly
along Northerly line of Highway M-89 as relocated to place of beginning, Section 36, Town 1 North, Range 11 West.
Common street address (if any): 137 M 89, Plainwell, MI 49080-9554
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.
Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
This notice is from a debt collector.
Date of notice: May 21, 2026
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1593974
(05-21)(06-11)

STATE OF MICHIGAN
JUDICIAL DISTRICT
57th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
ALLEGAN COUNTY
ORDER REGARDING
ALTERNATE SERVICE
CASE NO. 25-03866-SP and JUDGE Judge: SKOCELAS
Plaintiff's name, address, and telephone no.
Maria McCartney Trustee of Integrity Solo 401K
c/o Plaintiff's Counse
Plaintiff's attorney, bar no., address, and telephone no.
SOTTILE AND BARILE, LLC
David C. Nalley (P82119), Franco Barile (P69468), & Anthony
Schievelbein (P88196),
394 Wards Corner Road, Suite 180, Loveland, OH 45140
440.572.1511 / foreclosure@sottileandbarile.com
v
Defendant's name, address, and telephone no.
Jeannette M. Meade
357 West Orleans Street, Ostego, MI 49078
Nathan T. Clark
357 West Orleans Street, Ostego, MI 49078
Unknown Occupant(s), if any
357 West Orleans Street, Ostego, MI 49078
THE COURT FINDS:
1. Service of process upon the defendant, Nathan T. Clark, cannot reasonably be made as provided in MCR 2.107(B)(1)(b) and service of process may be made in a manner that is reasonably calculated to give the defendant actual notice of the proceedings and an opportunity to be heard.
IT IS ORDERED:
2. Service of the summons and complaint and a copy of this order shall be made by the following method(s).
a. First class mail to 357 West Orleans Street, Ostego, MI 49078
d. Other: Publication in the Allegan County News for three consecutive weeks.
s/ Joseph Skocelas (P31714)
March 2, 2026
5-21 6-4

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
ALLEGAN COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
CASE NO. 26-266207-OA and JUDGE Clearwater
Court address 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010
Court telephone no.(269) 673-0250
Estate of David Alan Emmons Date of Birth:*1/08/82
TO ALL CREDITORS: **
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, David Alan Emmons, died 11/03/2026.
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Julie Emmons, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
5-13-2026
Julie Emmons
182 Goodwin Dr.
Allegan MI 49101
616-218-3359

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in ALLEGAN County, starting promptly at 9:00, on June 18, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE INFORMATION: Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by CAROL OLSEN AND JAMES M OLSEN, WIFE AND HUSBAND, whose address is 4290 47th Street, Holland, Michigan 49423, as original Mortgagors, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for T2 Financial LLC DBA/ Revolution Mortgage and Lender's successors and assigns, being a mortgage dated January 26, 2024, and recorded on February 5, 2024 in Liber 4918 Page 781, with Document Number 2024001551, Allegan County Records, State of Michigan and then assigned to Newrez LLC d/b/a/ Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing, as assignee as documented by an assignment dated March 20, 2026 and recorded on March 20, 2026 in Liber 5120 Page 451, and given Document Number 2026004103 in Allegan County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of THREE HUNDRED TWENTY-FOUR THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED FIFTY-SIX AND 49/100 ($324,956.49). Said premises are situated in the Township of Overisel, County of Allegan, State of Michigan, and are described as: THE SOUTH 3 ACRES OF THE NORTH 1/2 OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF THE SOUTHWEST FRACTIONAL 1/4 OF SECTION 18, TOWN 4 NORTH, RANGE 14 WEST, OVERISEL TOWNSHIP, ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS BEGINNING AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SAID 3 ACRES BEING SOUTH 03 DEGREES 26 MINUTES 07 SECONDS EAST 2637.78 FEET AS MEASURED ON THE EAST LINE OF THE NORTHWEST FRACTIONAL 1/4 AND SOUTH 03 DEGREES 27 MINUTES 18 SECONDS EAST 133.72 FEET FROM THE NORTH 1/4 CORNER OF SECTION 18; THENCE PROCEEDING ON THE EAST LINE OF THE SOUTHWEST FRACTIONAL 1/4 OF SECTION 18 SOUTH 03 DEGREES 27 MINUTES 18 SECONDS EAST 198.02 FEET TO THE SOUTH LINE OF THE NORTH 1/2 OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF THE SOUTHWEST FRACTIONAL 1/4 OF SECTION 18; THENCE ON SAID SOUTH LINE NORTH 89 DEGREES 27 MINUTES 52 SECONDS WEST 661.60 FEET TO THE WEST LINE OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF THE SOUTHWEST FRACTIONAL 1/4 OF SECTION 18; THENCE ON SAID WEST LINE NORTH 03 DEGREES 25 MINUTES 17 SECONDS WEST 198.01 FEET TO THE NORTH LINE OF THE SOUTH 3 ACRES OF THE NORTH 1/2 OF THE NORTHEAST ¼ OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF THE SOUTHWEST FRACTIONAL 1/4 OF SECTION 18; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 27 MINUTES 52 SECONDS EAST 661.48 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. Street Address: 4290 47th Street, Holland, Michigan 49423 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA § 600.3241a in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of the sale. If the property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCLA § 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: IF YOU ARE A MILITARY SERVICE MEMBER ON ACTIVE DUTY, IF YOUR PERIOD OF ACTIVE DUTY HAS CONCLUDED LESS THAN 90 DAYS AGO, OR IF YOU HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO ACTIVE DUTY, PLEASE CONTACT THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PARTY FORECLOSING THE MORTGAGE AT THE TELEPHONE NUMBER STATED IN THIS NOTICE. Dated: May 21, 2026 For more information, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing: Robert A. Blumberg (P87490) Johnson, Blumberg & Associates LLC 30 North LaSalle St., Suite 3650 Chicago, Illinois, 60602 312.541.9710 - Phone 312.541.9711 - Fax File No.: MI 26 7223
(05-21)(06-11)

CLASSIFIEDS

Yard Sale

Yard Sale- Thurs- Mon, May 21-25, 45 haywagon loads, antiques to junk, barn full of furniture, 2 floors, plus addition on house, beds, dressers, couches and chairs; several dining sets; nightstands; metal shelves; hundreds of boxed lots of misc; antique dishes; a lot of kitchen stuff; blankets; tools; a lot of stuff not normally seen on sales from several estates, worth the drive. Located M-40, south of Allegan or north of Gobles, 108th Ave (Pullman Rd.) west, sixth house on right. 3333 108th Ave, Allegan, 49010, 8 am to 6 pm daily.

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3	1	4	6	2	5	8	7	9
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5	3	2	4	1	7	6	9	8
4	7	9	3	8	6	2	5	1
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1	6	7	9	5	3	4	8	2
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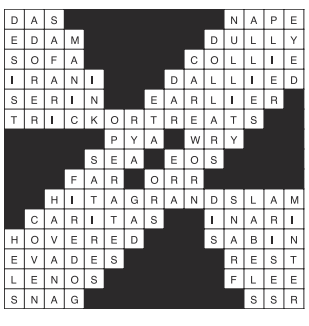

Misc.

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RELIGION SECTION

Have you ever felt you were a ghost to the rest of the world? So unnoticed, so unseen, that you wonder if you are invisible? That might seem like a fun trick to play on others, but in reality, it is a miserable experience.

I encountered a 'ghost' by accident a week or so ago. I was walking down the sidewalk as a man was coming my direction. I did not know him, but that didn't stop me from saying 'hello' to him. That is something The Olds taught us when we were young: You speak to people, and never think you are too good to say 'hello'.

He looked startled at first, then smiled and thanked me. The fellow went on to explain that he'd just had breakfast at a restaurant, and outside of the waitress, no one acknowledged his presence. And this wasn't the first time it happened. "Thank you. You made my day," he told me as if it was something special.

Maybe it was, because as I wrote, if you have ever experienced that treatment, you know it is rough.

That is why I very much appreciate the first sentence in a closing prayer we often use at church: "Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us."

When we are young, it sometimes seems as if life will extend and continue forever. Then we become a card-carrying member of The Olds, and we see that time is getting away from us. We have observed from others that the latter part of physical life might be very debilitating and limiting. Life is indeed short.

How many times have we put things off until tomorrow? Tomorrow I will call an old friend; tomorrow I'll send a text message or e-mail. Tomorrow we'll call the neighbors and see if we can set up dinner. We keep delaying and procrastinating, because when the clock turns twelve-midnight, suddenly there is another tomorrow. That is, until the day we ran out of those tomorrows. Sometimes, we tell ourselves, "Next year I will…." We all run out of those 'next years.'

The phrase that truly puts a smile on my face is 'gladden the hearts of those who travel with us. It is a boost to our own spirits when we do or say something that puts a smile on another person's face. A fellow I know realized that his wife enjoyed a certain brand of dark Mexican chocolate. It was a bit pricey, but he did not wait until a special occasion to stop by a shop to pick some up for her. Instead of waiting, he went out of his way to create a non-special occasion and casually said, "I thought you might enjoy this."

The chocolate said, "I see you. I see what you do to make life wonderful." It gladdened her heart.

A few years later his wife died, and when we were talking he mentioned the chocolate, and how fortunate he was that he could brighten her day.

Time is short and we are burning daylight. Now is the day to love and care for other people.

G C Stoppel
Priest Associate
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, Allegan, MI

Directory of Area Churches

Allegan Assembly of God
424 DeLano St, Allegan
Pastors Tim Heath & Paul Hays
Church: 673-6577

Allegan Bible Church
412 S. Sherman, Allegan
Pastor Jon Gruss
Church: 673-6831

Allegan Christian Center
700 Ely St., Allegan
Paul Knuckles, Pastor
Church: 673-2921

Allegan County Jail
Chaplain Sarah Montgomery
Phone: 673-0350

Allegan United Methodist Church
Corner Walnut & Trowbridge streets, Allegan
Pastor Julia Humenik
Church: 673-4236;

At the Master's Feet
814 21st St., Otsego
269-694-6897
Paster Ray Brown

Blessed Sacrament Church
110 N. Cedar Street, Allegan
Fr. Simon Manjooran
Church: 673-4455

Bloomingdale Bible Church
210 Chestnut at Pine NW
Bloomin gdale
Ofc. 269-427-2101

Bravo Community Church
5587 113th Ave., Fennville
Pastor Duane Terpstra
616-886-1214

Burnips United Methodist
4241 30th, Burnips
Craig VanBeek, Pastor
616-896-8410

Calvary Church of Wayland (IFCA)
304 S. Main Street, Wayland
Pastor Chad Peckham
ccwayland.org

Casco United Methodist Church
880 66th Street, South Haven
Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.
269-227-3328
www.cascoumc.org

Chicora Country Chapel
4399 108th Ave., Allegan
Pastor Herb Curry
Phone: 269-370-5834

Christ Community Church
3370 113th Ave., Allegan
www.alleganccc.org ·
(269) 673-2329
Pastor Wally Coots

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
687 Linn Street, Allegan
Church: 673-9617

Church of God - Otsego
112 Kalamazoo St., Otsego
Pastor Stephen Burrow Sr.
269-694-9481
www.otsegocog.com

Corner Bible Church
4001 124th Allegan
www.cornerbiblechurch.com

CrossWind Community Church
1632 142nd Avenue
Dorr, MI 49323
616-359-9013
Pastor Tommy Boutell

Dunningville Reformed Church
2559 M-40, Allegan
Church: 751-5894
dunningville.org/index.html

East Martin Christian Reformed Church
510-118th Ave., Martin
269-672-5746
www.eastmartincrc.org

Epiphany Lutheran Church (LCMS)
4219 Parklane, Dorr
www.epiphanydorr.org
Sunday service at 9:15 a.m., Bible Study and Sunday School following

Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd
101 North Walnut St, Allegan
Office: 673-2254

Faith Baptist Church
2846 125th Ave., Allegan
John Looman, Pastor
673-5040 1-888-354-3272

Fennville Assembly of God
5897 124th Ave.
Fennville, MI 49408
269-561-2683

Fennville United Methodist Church
5849 124th St., Fennville
269-561-5048
Bob Lynch, Pastor
www.fennvilleumc.org

First Baptist Church
1290 32nd St., Allegan
Service at 10:00am
Pastors Nathan Smith & Brendon Bayley
www.fbcallegan.com

First Baptist Church of Otsego
247 E Allegan St., Otsego
(269) 694-4160
firstbaptist@fbcotsego.org

First Church of God
1313 Marshall Street, Allegan
269 673-3881
www.pathtohim.org
Pastor, Tim Secord

First Congregational Church
323 Cutler Street, Allegan
Church Office: 673-3139
Pastor Todd Wagner

First Congregational Church
120 W. Morrell St., Otsego
269-694-6085
Pastor Lenny Luchetti

First Presbyterian Church of Plainwell
303 East Bridge St.
Plainwell, MI 49080
685-5990

Friendship Bible Church
104 Baker St., Hopkins, MI
Pastor Chris Cronk and Worship Pastor Tony Caldarona
Office 793-7929

Ganges Baptist Church
6577 122nd Avenue, Fennville
269-543-4203
11AM each Sunday

Ganges United Methodist Church
2218 68th St
Fennville MI 49408
Phone 269-543-3581
Lay Minister - Marcia A. Tucker

Grace Church of Hamilton
3690 Lincoln Rd. P.o. Box 97
Hamilton Mi 49419
269.264.4900
Gracechurchofhamilton@gmail.com

Hope Lutheran Church
290 12th St., Plainwell
(269) 685-1348
Pastor Nicole Smith
Worship 10:30am; S. School 9:15am

Hopkins Community Reformed Church
2142 128th Ave., Hopkins
(269) 793-7361
hopkinscommunitychurch.net

Hopkins United Methodist Church
322 N. Maple St., Hopkins
(269) 793-7323
Pastor Kelsey French

Horseshoe Community Bible Church
4950 104th Avenue, Grand Junction
269-521-4580 ·
Pastor Don Miller

Immanuel Lutheran Church
631 Grand Street, Allegan
Church: 673-3335
Rev. Christopher Laughlin

Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witness
2199 Taft Road, Allegan
Phone: 673-6179

Living Waters Community Church
5458 M-89, Fennville
Service: 10:30 Sundays
Pastor Andrew Leach
269-561-5277

Martin Reformed Church
1073 W. Allegan St., Martin
Pastor: Matthew Hendricks
672-5596

Martin United Methodist Church
969 E. Allegan St., Martin
Pastor Margaret Stoken
269-672-7097
www.martinumc.org

Merson Church
3313 102nd Ave., Gobles, MI
Office: 673-5274
www.mersonchurch.org

Montage Ministries
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Griswold Auditorium
Tuesdays 6:30-8:00pm

Monterey Center United Methodist Church
3022 130th Ave.
Monterey Center, 49328
Craig VanBeek, Pastor
793-7288

Mt. Calvary M.B. Church
5425 105th Ave., Pullman
Pastor Everett Belue
269-382-3405

New Hope Baptist Church
2011 Lincoln Road (M-40 N)
Pastor Tadd Butler
673-1938

Northbridge Church
8824 Douglas, Kalamazoo
269-385-4378 ·
www.northbridge.cc

Northpoint Ministries
04077 M40 (M40/CR390)
Gobles MI · 269.628.9199
Pastor Gary Lounsberry
Sunday Worship: 11am

OAKLAND CRC
4460 38th Street
Hamilton. Mi. 49419
616 688 5290
Pastor Mark Vande Zande

Otsego United Methodist Church
223 E Allegan St. Otsego MI
10:00 a.m. Worship
Reverend Dan Minor
Otsegomethodistchurch.org

Pathfinder North Church
(A Global Methodist Church)
532 M 89, Otsego, MI 49078
9:30 Fellowship 10:00 Worship
Rev Ron Hansen
Pathfindernorth.com

Peace Lutheran Church
805 S. Wilmott St., Otsego
www.peaceotsego.com
694-6104

Pearl United Methodist Church
1689 56th St., Fennville
269-561-5048 Worship 9:30 am
Bob Lynch, Pastor
www.fennvilleumc.org

Pentecostal Church of God I.M
2281 57th St, Fennville
Wed/Miércoles @ 7:00 pm
Sunday/Domingo @ 10:00 am
Worship Service @ 11:00am
Rev. Jeremias & Maribel Gaytan
231) 923-6887 - (231) 923-6959
Email: gytnj@yahoo.com

Plainwell Church of Christ
911 James St.
Plainwell, Michigan 49080

Plainwell First Baptist Church
404 W. Bridge St., Plainwell
(269) 685-8888
Pastor George Osborn

Plainwell First United Methodist Church
200 Park St. Plainwell
269-685-5113
www.fumcplainwell.com

Rectify Church
247 N. Main St., Allegan
616-218-1556
Pastor Sarah Montgomery

Redemption Place Church of God
1900 M-40, Allegan
Pastor Deborah Lesher
Church: 269-355-1167

Refreshing Springs Ministries
201 Briggs St., Allegan
616-510-7416
Pastor Adrian Hall

River of Life Church
605 W. Allegan, Otsego
269-672-9904
www.alleganchurch.com

Seventh Day Adventist Church
229 Cutler Street, Allegan
Dan Rachor, Pastor
Church: 673-3284

Shelbyville United Methodist Church
938 124th Ave., Shelbyville
672-7097 - Church office
Pastor Margaret Stoken

South Monterey United Methodist Church
Pastor Kelsey French
Church: 793-7323

St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church
11850 9 Mile Rd., Shelbyville
269-664-4345
Service: Sundays 9:30 am

Saint John's Church Of God In Christ
716 Academy St, Allegan
Rev. Jeremiah Johnson Sr.
Phone: 673-8590—673-3007

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
1764 34th St., Allegan
Pastor Ronald Kruse 673-2079
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.

St. Margaret's Catholic Church
766 S. Farmer St., Otsego
269-694-6311

Third Coast Community Church
www.thirdcoastff.org |
269.857.5633
6069 Blue Star Hwy, Saugatuck, MI 49453
Sunday Worship: 10:00am

Trowbridge Community Church
355 26th Street, Otsego
Pastor Mykel Hall, Pastor
Church: 673-5502

Unity Baptist Church
35 14 12th St. Wayland
Pastor Kelly Ryan
Cell # (269) 330-2217

Watson Bible Church
1626 116th St., Otsego
Pastor Tim Morris
672-2166

Wayland Community Church
502 West Superior, Wayland
(616) 877-6134
Worship Sunday @ 10:30am

UniPac "Contract Packaging Specialist"
809 Airway Dr. – Highland Industrial Park
269-673-8488

RAPA Rapa Electric, Inc.
1173 Lincoln Rd., Allegan
673-3155/673-3157

Waanders Concrete Co.
Ready-Mix Concrete
3169 Babylon Rd., Allegan
673-6352

Allegan Eyecare
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www.alleganeyecare.com

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www.legglumber.com

NAPA AUTO PARTS
1513 Lincoln Rd., Allegan
269-673-3080

Ted's Auto Body Shop, Inc
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